Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIX, Issue No. 149 | TUESDAY JUNE 23, 2009 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Do you plan to attend any of the sessions in the ongoing 26th Pacific Islands Environmental Conference at the Saipan World Resort?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 6

As of June 22, 2009

Phase 1: Viruses circulating among animals have yet to cause infections in humans.

Phase 2: An animal influenza virus is causing infection in humans, and is considered a potential pandemic threat.

Phase 3: An animal or human-animal influenza virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks.

Phase 4: Verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza virus able to cause "community-level outbreaks."

Phase 5: A strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of planned mitigation measures is short.

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Beefed Up

Pacific Islands Club's Seaside Grill will be hosting a "Beefed Up Buffet with the Champions" this Friday.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 18

Guerrero gets probation

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court imposed a three-year probation sentence yesterday on former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Anthony C. Guerrero for his participation in the Rydlyme corruption case.

Guerrero

"I believe you are sincerely remorseful," U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson told Guerrero during the sentencing.

Munson ordered the 39-year-old Guerrero to perform 500 hours of community service and immediately pay a $6,000 fine and $100

See GUERRERO on Page 4

A pattern of harassment at Guam airport

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Japanese businessman who has been in charge of multi-million investments in the CNMI for years had to endure hearing a Guam airport enforcement officer say, "Do you think I'm a f__ng Japanese?" and being called back with a crook of an index finger for a secondary inspection. And when he asked the officer about the problem, the officer said, "Sorry I thought you don't speak English."

"What if I don't speak English? Is that the way they treat Japanese or any Asian for that matter?" the businessman, who

See A PATTERN on Page 4

$100/BARREL OIL IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE
• Oil production is set at about 83 million barrels a day. There is no more easy oil, except in Iraq.
• Economic recovery will increase demand.
• Chinese and Indian economies are growing.
• A production collapse could occur in Saudi Arabia, Iran, Venezuela, Nigeria or in the Gulf of Mexico—another Katrina.

ENERGY SUMMIT HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Howard Wiig, left, an institutional energy analyst at the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, makes a presentation on renewable energy and energy conservation solutions at yesterday's Energy Summit at the Saipa World Resort. Today marks the official opening of the 26th Pacific Islands Environment Conference co-hosted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the governments of the CNMI, Guam and American Samoa. ***See stories on Page 3 and 7.***

The CNMI Men's Nationals' Pete Iguel drives against New Zealand's Ezra Nikora during their game in the 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament officially opened Sunday night and will be held on Saipan until June 28, during which Saipan will also host the FIBA Oceania Congress on June 24, when the region's officials elect the FIBA Oceania Board for 2009-2013. ***See stories on Page 28.***

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

OCEANIA TOURNAMENT BEGINS

'Tinian govt spends over $300K intended for retroactive salaries'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Tinian municipal government spent for operations all the $600,000 it collected from Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino in 2007, instead of depositing half of it—$300,000—in an account to pay for the retroactive salary of former government employees as required by a local law, Tinian municipal treasurer David Q. Maratita and Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) said.

Hofschneider, in an interview during a break at yesterday's

See TINIAN on Page 4

Pelisamen found guilty in new trial

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former estate administrator Luis Kaipat Pelisamen was found guilty yesterday in a new trial for money laundering and wire fraud charges.

After deliberating for less than three hours, the 12 jurors reached a unanimous verdict, finding Pelisamen guilty of all five charges—conspiracy to commit wire fraud, wire fraud, money laundering conspiracy,

See PELISAMEN on Page 4

Micronesian Repatriation chairman passes away. **PAGE 3**
New regs impose new, higher fees on foreign students. **PAGE 5**

IT&E
Life in Motion
MORE THAN FIVE
"Why limit yourself to a list of five people?"
Talk all you want to as MANY PEOPLE you want...NO LIMITS
Saipan: 682-4ITE (4483) • Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • www.ite.net
$59.95* per month
Unlimited Voice to all CNMI and GUAM numbers
UNLIMITED MINUTES
SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS
*Terms and conditions apply

Local

Western Pacific region received $492M in airport funds

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Federal Aviation Administration approved a total of $492 million in grants to airports in the Western Pacific Region last fiscal year under the agency's airport improvement program funds, according to its annual report for FY 2008.

The report, presented during the 5th Annual Airports Conference in California last week, indicated that Pacific Islands, including the CNMI, received $64.2 in FAA grants. These included one project grant for the airports in American Samoa, two for Federated States of Micronesia, five for Guam, and four major projects for CNMI.

A total of $269.9 million was provided to California while $67.9 million was awarded last year to Arizona. FAA also approved in FY 2008 $59.2 million for Nevada airport projects and awarded Hawaii $31.2 million grants for its numerous airport developments.

The $492 million airport improvement program funds for the Western Pacific region included funding for two safety enhancement programs, conducting a runway end survey to support a localizer approach with vertical guidance for 10 reliever airports in California; and runway safety area improvements at eight air carrier airport runways.

According to Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Efrain F. Camacho, the recent airport conference held at Los Angeles, California, brought together airport managers and stakeholders who shared their successes and concerns on handling airport operation.

In his presentation, Camacho shared that Delta/Northwest Airlines and Asiana are the two main airlines servicing the islands and that Japanese visitors continue to dominate at about 80 percent, while only 13 percent are from Korea, 8 percent from the U.S., and 2 percent from other destinations.

He also reported on the progress being made to Saipan International Airport's temporary runway and described the runway rehabilitation as one of the most critical projects of CPA.

Rehabilitation work, he said, is expected to begin early in 2010 and will be done for about 250 calendar days. During this time, he said the temporary runway will be used for majority of aircraft traffic.

Funding for the project will come from the stimulus money approved by U.S. President Obama, amounting to $5 million.

Sign up today and get a FREE Limited Edition 'in' t-shirt!
You gotta get in.
Save even more with DOCOMO PACIFIC's new Individual Network plan.
My girls are 'in'...
...and so is my yoga instructor.
Pick up to 5 and Save
Depending on your plan selection, you can choose up to five people to make and receive unlimited calls and get huge savings on your phone bill each month!
• Includes calls to and from Tinian, Rota and Guam.
• Convenience of any phone, any network.
Rates starting as low as $45.00* per month
FREE activation!
* Rate plan for 2 people start at $25.00 per month. For details, call 483-CARE. Terms and conditions apply.
individual network
It's your network.
Who you put 'in' is up to you!
NTT docomo DOCOMO PACIFIC
483-CARE | www.docomopacific.com | Typhoon-Proven
Gualo Rai, Middle Road • MITA Travel, Garapan

NMC still short of dean, dept. chair, 5 instructors

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Barely two months before the fall semester, Northern Marianas College still has several vacancies to be filled before the start of classes in August.

Last week, NMC announced that two top positions are available following the resignations of dean of Academic Programs and Services Debra Cabrera and director of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness Wil Castro.

These vacancies joined other positions left open by former Business Department chair Eric Plinske and nursing head Cyndi Tice, both of whom retired.

Last month, NMC's bookstore manager David Apatang Jr. retired as well.

Based on vacancy announcements on its website, seven positions at NMC are up for grabs. Apart from Cabrera's and Castro's positions, a bookstore manager, an instructor for education, a program coordinator, and two program managers are needed.

Former Senate faculty president Frank Sobolewski, who chairs the Social Sciences and Fine Arts Department, said yesterday that he is worried about the number of positions left unfilled before the opening of new semester.

Sobolewski said that in addition to the openings posted on the college's website, NMC needs more instructors. These include instructors in the areas of psychology, medical health and sciences, accounting/business, education, and nursing.

All these positions were previously filled but are now in need of replacements, Sobolewski said.

He also said the resignations of Cabrera and Castro may negatively affect the "momentum" of the previously established program review process.

NMC expects the Western Association of Schools and Colleges to issue a decision on its accreditation status this month. The commission will either terminate or reaffirm NMC's accreditation depending on its evaluation of the NMC's supplemental report, which was submitted on May 31.

Earlier this month, NMC asked the Legislature not to cut its appropriation for the next fiscal year so it could continue all academic programs.

The governor's proposal for NMC was $6 million, $5 million of which the Legislature intends to provide.

NMC, the CNMI's only community college, has suspended and placed on "inactive" status some of its offerings due to low enrollment and budget constraints.

In a recent meeting with lawmakers, NMC officials said they are counting on a positive response from the Legislature.

CDC issues guidelines for summer campers

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Outbreaks of pandemic H1N1 in U.S. summer camps have prompted the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to issue a guideline for campers.

CDC said the primary way to reduce the spread of influenza in camps is for a person with a fever or a cough to stay home, contact a doctor when affected by flu-like symptoms, and remain informed of health updates.

Hand washing facilities with running water and soap should be available to all campers and staff, said CDC. CDC also reminded campers to use good hand hygiene and to observe cough etiquette.

The CNMI Department of Public Health is implementing the same guidelines for local campers this summer.

DPH warns the public that this is an evolving situation and health officials will provide additional information as it becomes available.

Camp staff, volunteers, and campers should be aware of the symptoms of pandemic flu and rapidly report to camp staff if they recognize systems in others or themselves.

CNMI is still under pandemic alert level six as declared by the World Health Organization and CDC.

DPH said there is no confirmed H1N1 case yet in the CNMI as of June 22.

WHO has reported 44,287 cases of the virus and 180 deaths worldwide. Almost half of the cases are in the U.S., which now has 21,449 confirmed cases and 87 deaths attributed to the disease.

DPH said it continues to conduct active flu surveillance in the CNMI.

Rapid flu testing is being conducted at the Commonwealth Health Center, Marianas Medical Center, and Medical Associates of the Pacific clinics and at the Tinian and Rota health centers.

Micronesian Repatriation chairman passes away

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Choken Ginoza, the chairman of the Micronesian Repatriation Association, also known as the association of war bereaved families from Okinawa, Japan, passed away on June 10 due to a stroke shortly after visiting Saipan and Tinian.

Members of the association were born in Micronesia before World War II but were repatriated to Okinawa at the outbreak of war. Ginoza had been chairman of the group for the past 43 years.

Ginoza was born on Tinian but went to school in Palau.

Due to their ages, Ginoza and others from the group made their final visit to Saipan and Tinian from May 27 to May 31.

Just over a week after returning to Japan, Ginoza passed away on June 10 at the age of 74.

Ginoza lost 10 family members during the battles of Saipan and Tinian. During his last visit, he recalled family members who used dynamites to commit suicide in a cave when U.S. forces landed on Tinian.

In a message to the association, Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela, who knew Ginoza for eight years, expressed his sympathy to Ginoza's family and colleagues.

Tudela said he was surprised to learn of Ginoza's death because he was supposed to return to the CNMI this month.

The last time Ginoza and Tudela met was in Okinawa, where Ginoza was given an honorary recognition.

Tudela said the people of Saipan are thankful to Ginoza's efforts to keep the organization intact.

"We will always remember him in our hearts and our children's hearts for countless generations to come," Tudela said.

A 254-member delegation from MRA was the largest so far to attend the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the groups' annual pilgrimage to Saipan and the 32nd anniversary of the pilgrimage to Tinian.

High fuel prices prompt energy blueprint for NMI

By ANITA HOFSCHNEIDER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The 26th Pacific Islands Environmental Conference kicked off yesterday at Saipan World Resort with a pre-conference energy summit and interactive workshops that aim to craft a plan to reduce the CNMI's dependence on imported fuel.

John McCarroll, manager of the Pacific Islands Office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, welcomed about 150 attendees to the CNMI Energy Summit.

"The time is now to have an energy summit in the CNMI," he said.

McCarroll said the idea for the summit came when fuel prices skyrocketed in the summer of 2008, sparking an energy crisis.

"As long as the CNMI remains dependent on imported fuel, people will continue to be vulnerable," he said.

McCarroll's remarks were followed by the first panel, "CNMI Energy Status Update," composed of Tony Muña, executive director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.; Joe Inos, representing Thelma B. Inos, director of the CNMI Department of Public Works; and Herb Wade, an independent energy consultant.

Like McCarroll, Muña addressed last year's energy crisis.

RELATED NEWS
Energy strategies proposed for the CNMI at summit. **PAGE 7**

"At peak prices in 2008, the CNMI was paying $8 million a month for fuel," he said.

Today, the CNMI pays $3.8 million a month for fuel.

"But that number is creeping up," Muña said.

Muña said energy reform must not only focus on sustainability, but also affordability.

Wade, another panelist, described the findings of the 2006 U.S. Insular Areas Energy Assessment Report, an update of the 1982 Territorial Energy Assessment.

"The 1982 recommendations are very similar to the recommendations in 2006," he said. They include increasing energy efficiency and using renewable energy to reduce diesel usage.

The supply side of increasing energy efficiency is not just about better technology, said Wade. It's also about better recordkeeping to make sure that consumers are paying for what they use.

"In the Pacific, the problems [with energy] are 80 percent people, 20 percent technology," said Wade.

Wade said technology maintenance is integral to increasing efficiency, and that maintenance depends on management.

"There's a graveyard of hundreds of thousands of equipment in the Pacific that was put in with great intentions," said Wade.

Similarly, Wade said that decisions to subsidize power exacerbate energy problems.

"Subsidizing power leads to people using more power than is appropriate for the price that it costs," he said.

Inos, the third panelist, outlined how the CNMI plans to use energy-related funds from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act.

A total of $18 million for the CNMI State Energy Program will flow into projects such as renewable energy for the Public School System, he said.

He said an energy efficiency and conservation block grant of $9.6 million will be available, and $796,000 will go to a weatherization assistance program to help low-income families reduce the amount they pay for energy.

The conference attracted attendees from the mainland and across the Pacific.

Lorilee T. Crisostomo, administrator of the Guam EPA, said she flew over to learn what Guam can do to reach their goal of reducing energy consumption.

Working together is very valuable, she said. It's good to see these issues finally addressed as the region works to come up with solutions unique to the area.

PIEC is sponsored by the U.S. EPA and the governments of the CNMI, Guam, and American Samoa. The theme of the conference is "Climate of Change: Energizing a Sustainable Future for Pacific Islands," and consists of both presentations and roundtable discussions. The formal agenda starts today and will continue until Thursday.

Ex-Saipan athlete dies in Hawaii car crash

Former CNMI swimmer Audra Winkfield-Jones died Sunday in a car accident while on duty with the U.S. Air Force in Hawaii.

Sketchy reports said that Winkfield-Jones' car was hit by a truck and she died on the spot.

Her father, Bobby Winkfield, who is the principal of the Saipan Community School, gave no further details of the accident.

He said his daughter's body will be flown to Saipan by the U.S. Air Force within the week, most probably by Thursday.

Friends and colleagues of the Winkfields have gathered at their residence to express their condolences yesterday.

A Tsunami Saipan e-mail sent to the family's friends and sports community described Audra as a girl with a sweet and gentle spirit and was a great swimmer.

Audra is the elder sister of Tamiko Winkfield, also with SCS. Their father is the president of the Northern Mariana Swimming Federation.

"The Winkfields have been a pillar not only to the swimming community but to the whole of Saipan. That's why in this great time of loss and sorrow, we would like to express our love and sympathy to the whole family by visiting with them this afternoon after practice," said the message. "Please pray for the whole family as they go through this painful loss." ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

IT'S DOUBLE STAMP DAYS AT SHELL!
For a limited time, when you gas up at Shell, you'll be rewarded with Double Stamps for each gallon of fuel purchased. Double Stamps allow you to redeem your Lucky 7 Passport in half the time, which means more value for you.
Hurry in to Shell today for this limited time offer!
made to move
A WORLD OF CHOICES!
Don't gas up without it!

Navy contracts awarded to 10 small biz

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas announced the award of 10 indefinite-delivery, indefinite-quantity design-build multiple award construction contracts, with a total contract value of up to $400 million, which includes the base period and four unexercised option periods.

The contracts were awarded to the following small businesses: Ace Builders, LLC; AIC International, Inc.; BME & Sons, Inc.; Fargo Pacific, Inc.; Keum Yang Corp.; Modern International, Inc.; Overland Corp.; Reliable Builders, Inc.; Serrano Construction and Development Corp., and Tumon Corp. Nine of the 10 contractors are local Guam-based companies.

"We applaud the tremendous efforts that went into this procurement solicitation both from the stand point of our contracting office and the bidders," said NAVFAC Marianas Commanding Officer, Capt. Paul Fuligni. "As Military presence increases on Guam, we will continue to seek best value proposals from our business community, and will heavily rely on them as our partners to provide the necessary construction support and expertise," Fuligni added.

The type of work involved in the design-build MACC will consist of new construction, renovation, modernization, and routine repair and maintenance of U.S. Military shore-based facilities on Guam that support operations, training and quality of life programs. ***(USN)***

PELISAMEN

From Page 1

money laundering in the amount of $10,000, and money laundering in the amount of $10,075.

The charges carry a maximum sentence of 20 years imprisonment, according to the prosecution.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson set the sentencing for Sept. 29, 2009 at 9am.

Until his sentencing, Pelisamen was allowed to remain at liberty on the same bail conditions as the court had earlier set.

After the hearing, Pelisamen told the media that he is innocent of the charges.

Pelisamen said federal agents should investigate what his then counsel, Joseph Aldan Arriola, did to him.

Douglas Cushnie, lawyer for Pelisamen, refused to comment after the verdict. He said he and his client have to talk first whether to appeal or not.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Kirk Schuler told the media that there were two stories presented in court and the jury had to choose whether to believe the defendant's story or the government's story.

"I think the evidence in the common sense was on the government's side and the jury came back with the verdict that's supportive of the government' side. We think that's the truth and justice prevailed," Schuler said.

The prosecutor said there were 64 checks issued in the Kaipat estate and every single one of those checks had Pelisamen's signature on it and his accomplice and co-defendant Arriola.

"Over $368,000 was made payable to the defendant and he is only entitled to receive about $54,000. I think the disparity between the amounts he received and the amounts his wife and his co-defendant received in comparison to the amounts that the other heirs were supposed to receive probably made a big difference to the jury," Schuler said.

The U.S. government charged Pelisamen and Arriola with wire fraud and money laundering. Last month, a hung jury prompted the court to declare a mistrial in the case against Pelisamen.

Then Superior Court Associate Judge Juan T. Lizama kicked out Pelisamen and Arriola from the Kaipat estate after finding that some of the estate's money was missing.

According to the indictment, Arriola and Pelisamen transferred funds belonging to the Kaipat estate from the Bank of Guam to the Bank of Hawaii on Nov. 28, 2005, causing communications by wire between Saipan and Hawaii.

The FBI arrested Pelisamen in January 2008 following the indictment. Arriola, however, fled the CNMI.

Last week, Philippine authorities arrested Arriola in a village in the northern part of the Philippines. The lawyer has been reportedly turned over to Philippine immigration agents, who will process his deportation to the U.S.

TINIAN

From Page 1

Energy Summit, said the gravity of the violation calls for a formal inquiry into the matter.

"Why did they use the $300,000 to fund continuing operations when the law says it should go to the retroactive pay of employees?" he said.

Tinian Local Law 11-01's sections 404(f) and 302(b) require the creation of a special account into which must be deposited money received from Dynasty for payment of arrears on license fee and taxes.

"I fear that the municipality may have been overspending the budget in violation of law, and that some investigation by the delegation may be in order," he said in a letter to Tinian Legislative Delegation chair Sen. Joseph M. Mendiola (Cov-Tinian) on June 17.

In May, Hofschneider wrote Tinian Mayor Jose P. San Nicolas to ask for information on the amount of tax and arrears paid by Dynasty deposited into an account and waiting appropriation for employees' retroactive salary adjustment.

When he did not get a response from the mayor, Hofschneider wrote a letter to Mendiola seeking for an investigation into the matter.

Mendiola and San Nicolas could not be reached for comment yesterday, and the mayor's chief executive officer, Bill Cing, said he will reply to media inquiries later.

A separate interview with Tinian municipal treasurer David Q. Maratita confirmed that the municipality collected some $600,000 from Dynasty in 2007 for arrears in license fee and taxes.

"Half of that was supposed to go into the account for retroactive payment but that didn't happen. It went to operation," Maratita said.

While Maratita said he's aware of the law, he also questioned the timing of Hofschneider's inquiry into the matter.

In 2006, the municipal government collected some $800,000 from Dynasty for arrears in license fee and taxes payment. Half of the amount, or some $400,000, went into paying for the retroactive pay of former government employees and the other half funded the operations of the municipality, said Maratita.

But in 2007, all the $600,000 collected from Dynasty went to fund the continuing operations of the municipality.

Maratita said the retroactive pay amounted to a total of some $913,000, but when the 2006 collections of $400,000 came in, the government's obligation was reduced to some $500,000.

"Even if half or $300,000 of the 2007 collection went to retroactive pay, the government still owes these employees some $200,000. But yes, it would have helped if we paid," he said.

Hofschneider had said that over a hundred Tinian municipal employees have yet to receive half of their retroactive salary payment under the 1991 government salary adjustment law.

"The people of Tinian are experiencing economic difficulties and it is the job of any responsible public servant to exert every available effort to help relieve their burdens. That is exactly what I intend to do," Hofschneider told San Nicolas.

He added that said Section 405 of the local law, which gives the Tinian mayor a "great deal of reprogramming authority," explicitly states that the funds identified "must not be touched."

A PATTERN

From Page 1

asked his name to be withheld, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

He and another businessman who is a green card holder said others like them who have been harassed at the Guam airport "keep silent" about their ordeal for fear of being blacklisted in Guam.

"Guam was not even my last destination. I was just transiting," said the businessman.

The green card holder who related his ordeal earlier to Senate President Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) said yesterday he almost missed his connecting flight because he was held for hours by immigration officers in Guam.

"An immigration officer told me that green card holders can't live on Saipan, only on the U.S. [mainland] but I said I can live wherever I want if I have proper documents and I don't need a re-entry. He said Saipan is not part of the U.S. and it is a foreign country so I need re-entry. He started yelling at me, started pointing a finger at me until another immigration officer asked him to calm down and he went out of the room," the green card holder said.

Both the businessman and the green card holder are of Japanese descent.

They are hoping that the letter of Reyes and House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) to CNMI Gov. Benigno R. Fitial will help prevent future harassment of CNMI travelers entering or transiting Guam.

Reyes said yesterday he has yet to hear from Fitial about his letter, a copy of which was also sent to Guam Gov. Felix P. Camacho and Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan.

An e-mail from Pauline Gumataotao from the Office of the Governor of Guam said the *Saipan Tribune* inquiry on the matter "was forwarded to the Legal Counsel, Office of the Governor, for review."

Reyes and Palacios, in their letter to Fitial, said CNMI travelers are being questioned beyond the scope deemed to be reasonable for entry to or transit in Guam. Reyes' former wife, a U.S. citizen and originally from the Philippines, also went through the same ordeal whenever she transited through the Guam airport despite proving that she had proper documents.

"There are many others who were subjected to this kind of treatment at the Guam airport," he added.

GUERRERO

From Page 1

court assessment fee.

"I wish you the very best in the remainder of your life," Munson told the teary-eyed Guerrero, who appeared satisfied with the sentence. He was accompanied at the sentencing by his lawyer, Robert T. Torres. His parents, family members, and some friends were also present.

Guerrero was charged with wire fraud, conspiracy, and theft of federal funds in connection with the case involving former Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez, former Commerce Secretary James A. Santos, and Joaquina V. Santos, who were found guilty of conspiring to bilk the CNMI government of thousands of dollars with a series of needless purchases of a descalant chemical called Rydlyme.

Shortly after the indictment was filed in August 2008, Guerrero immediately signed a plea agreement with the U.S. government, pleading guilty to conspiracy and agreeing to testify for the government.

The U.S. government then filed a new indictment, adding bribery charges to the previous charges filed against Villagomez and the Santos couple.

Before the sentence was rendered yesterday, Guerrero read a prepared statement. "I accept full responsibility. I have no excuse," he said. "I do not blame anybody, not even Tim Villagomez."

He said that from the outset, he knew the contract to purchase Rydlyme was wrong, considering that Joaquina Villagomez, who got the contract to supply CUC with the chemical, is the sister of the former lieutenant governor.

Guerrero apologized to his parents, family members, relatives, CUC employees, and the community and thanked the Federal Bureau of Investigation, especially case agent Dana McMahon, whom he said "is a great agent."

Guerrero said some relatives and friends had suggested that what he did in testifying against Villagomez and the Santos couple was heroic but he emphasized that "the true heroes are the employees of CUC who spoke the truth."

"I am grateful to them. They are the real heroes and role models," he added.

He said that being the executive director of CUC requires a public trust, but that he failed and breached that trust by allowing the mismanagement of the utility agency.

After the judge announced his sentence, Guerrero immediately hugged his counsel, Torres, then shook hands with the prosecutors—assistant U.S. attorneys general Eric O'Malley and Jeff Strand.

O'Malley had recommended a sentence of one year probation, a $1,000 fine, and 500 hours of community service.

The prosecutor said Guerrero immediately accepted responsibility. He said when he and FBI agent McMahon spoke with Guerrero about the investigation, the former CUC executive director immediately cooperated with them, although they told him to consult a lawyer.

O'Malley also cited how Guerrero testified "under the abusive cross-examination" by the defense counsel.

O'Malley said the sentencing guidelines allow for a motion that is designed to encourage people to come forward and this will give them many incentives because they render substantial assistance in the investigation.

"Certainly Mr. Guerrero qualified for that. He cooperated with us pretty much from the beginning. His cooperation was complete. Anything that we asked [for], he provided," the prosecutor said.

"The big thing is there is no jail time," O'Malley said, adding that he believes it is very appropriate in this case, given the level of Guerrero's cooperation.

Ultimately, O'Malley said, he believes that Guerrero wanted to clear his conscience. "I think he wanted an opportunity to do the right thing," the prosecutor said.

After the hearing, Guerrero told the media that he would just like to acknowledge anew CUC employees, including those who did not testify.

He said he is grateful to the CUC employees and that he owes them and the community his respect and admiration. "I just want to apologize and say to the community that I will not fail them again," Guerrero said.

At the sentencing hearing, Torres said this case is about power, about the use of power, and the abuse of power.

"Ultimately it is not the case of Anthony Guerrero. It is about standing up and doing the right thing, standing up against the abuse of power," Torres said.

Torres recommended three years of probation, 500 hours of community works service, and a fine.

In an interview with the media after the hearing, Torres stated that the case is also about the power of courage for people to stand up and tell the truth and do the right thing.

"This case started with an objection by one employee within CUC who said this was wrong and had the courage to say it was wrong," said Torres. " It is not about what any federal agent did or what OPA [Office of Public Auditor] did. So we want to keep that focused and emphasize that that's what this case all about—that within government there are many great people who have that courage and the court encourages that."

The sentencing of Villagomez and the Santos couple is set for July 28, 2009.

New regs impose new, higher fees on foreign students

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Foreign students who want to enroll in CNMI schools are now required to pay more than double their application fee plus new additional fees as mandated by new regulation governing alien students in the Commonwealth.

Saipan Tribune learned that from the previous non-refundable $100 application fee, the Department of Commerce now collects $250 per foreign student. However, it kept the renewal fee at $100 and annual alien registration fee of $25 per applicant.

Besides being accredited with the Commerce Department, the new policy mandates that schools wanting to accept foreign enrollees need to pay a certification fee of $250 and $50 for every appeal they may have in their student's application.

Pangelinan

Commerce also collects from these schools $100 for the sponsor fee of each alien student.

Schools interviewed by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday expressed concerns about the new fees and new procedures being enforced on foreign students, saying the significant fee increases may discourage them from coming and studying here.

They said not all foreign students are capable of "understanding" the higher fees being imposed by the government.

Several schools said these new fees are prompting some parents to intensify efforts to transfer their children to other states. The difference in the fees collected between the CNMI and other states is now so small that it may convince alien students to prefer education in those areas, they said.

The Commerce Department, in its recent meeting with private schools representatives, had emphasized that those who will be affected by the new fees are the new foreign enrollees who have yet to get their foreign student entry permits.

Permits now being carried by current students will be valid until their expiration dates.

A term of an entry permit is one year but the department, based on the regulation, can issue two-year permits using its discretion.

'Expensive health insurance'

A number of private schools that accept foreign students also aired concerns about the costly health insurance their students need to pay.

Saipan Tribune learned that from the previous yearly health insurance requirement of $15 to $20 per alien student, the new enrollees now need to pay more.

At present, only StayWell is accredited by the Commerce Department to provide health insurance to alien students.

Saipan Tribune learned that the cost ranges from $195 per month for alien students below 30 years old and $275 per month for those 31 to 39 years old.

"For the health insurance alone, students need to pay much. From just $20 per student yearly, the fees they need to pay increased to $195 monthly," one of the schools' representatives told *Saipan Tribune.*

Since the Commerce Department said there is still room for changes and improvements in the regulation, some schools plan to approach and discuss their concerns with the department.

Eucon International School confirmed paying StayWell $195 per foreign student for their monthly health insurance. Eucon has over 200 foreign students every year.

Strict processing such as rejecting schools with deficiencies and asking for an authenticate birth certificate of students were also cited as among the factors that delay the processing of student's application.

"We can understand if they're asking for the original document from a new foreign enrollee… but in the case of renewals, it's an added work to the schools because we need to get a new one from their country of origin when in fact the schools already submitted these original records to Immigration when they first came in," one representative said.

'A fragile industry'

Ladera International School of Saipan principal Wayne Pangelinan described the CNMI edu-tourism industry as "very fragile."

"This industry is very fragile. One mistake, we can lose it completely…and we cannot afford that," he told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

LISS is host to hundreds of foreign students, mostly Koreans.

Though he admitted certain new fees were imposed and have increased, Pangelinan acknowledged the need to implement the requirements.

"For me the regulations are good because it allows the CNMI to capitalize on this growing education market but in a controlled atmosphere," he said.

As far as health insurance of students is concerned, the LISS principal said this has been the school's policy since day one.

He admitted that many people took advantage of the "loopholes" in previous regulations.

One thing he cited as commendable in the new policy is the government's responsibility in ensuring the safety and welfare of foreign students.

Based on the new policy, schools have the responsibility for the homestay of students.

A foreign enrollee, under the previous regulation, pays up to $4,000 to their homestay without proper guidance and monitoring from schools.

"Now, schools have the responsibility for these homestays," Pangelinan said.

Average of 1 wedding a day in NMI

Lawmaker and her partner latest to tie the knot

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An average of one couple ties the knot every single day in 2008 and 2007 in the CNMI, government data shows. But the average is expected to remain the same this year.

One of the latest to wed is Rep. Rosemond B. Santos (R-Saipan) and Gary Sword. They got married on Saturday at her oceanview property in Papago.

Santos

"We met two years ago, on June 20, 2007, and we got married on June 20, 2009. It's a quick and very simple wedding which was what I liked," Santos told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Frances S. Pangelinan of the Marriage License Section at the Office of the Governor yesterday said 374 coupled got marriage licenses in 2007, and 378 in 2008.

"The number of licenses is pretty much the same every year, whether civil or church wedding," she said.

This, despite a $25 increase in the marriage license fee in May 2008—from only $25 to $50.

"There seemed to be no effect on the number of marriage licenses we issue. These include weddings at the Saipan Mayor's Office, the Governor's Office, the Northern Islands Mayor's Office, and those on Tinian and Rota," she said.

Pangelinan added that many of these marriages are between local residents, as well as between local residents and Asians.

The CNMI is also marketing itself as a wedding and honeymoon destination for tourists.

MORE THAN FIVE
"Why limit yourself to a list of five people?"
Talk all you want to as MANY PEOPLE you want.. NO LIMITS
Unlimited Minutes
Unlimited Voice to all CNMI and GUAM numbers
$59.95*
UNLIMITED Local Talk
MORE Minutes
MORE People
MORE Value
MORE Freedom
Calls to all Wireless & Landline numbers included
*While Supplies Last • Terms and Conditions Apply • Rates subject to change On a 1 Year Term • BlackBerry Data services and Unlimited Data additional.
Sign Up Today!
Saipan: 682-4ITE (4483) • Tinian: 433-0210
Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • www.ite.net
Are you IN the Network?
IT&E
Life in Motion

Interim water rates eyed for low-income CUC customers

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Low-income customers of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. could pay a slightly lower rate or may be placed on a temporary or provisional water rate schedule when the Public Utilities Commission approves an interim rate for them.

The commission said this in a decision it issued Saturday to allow CUC to adjust its water and wastewater charges.

The commission findings state that it would be fair, just, and reasonable to implement the rate increases as proposed by CUC.

In the same decision, the commission authorized the development of interim lifeline rates for CUC water and wastewater services to assist low-income customers.

These interim rates will be submitted for the commission's consideration in its August regulatory session.

The commission authorized the increase in wastewater rates to cover the anticipated wastewater revenue deficiency.

PUC first approved on April 3 the 81-percent across-the-board water rate increase, with 50 percent of the increase suspended until June 1, 2009.

Last Saturday, the commission allowed the utilities corporation to make the next adjustment rate on water services.

According to the stipulated order, in the event the government finds money to cover for the water deficiencies of CUC, the suspension of the rate increase shall remain up to April 2010, when the full rate increase shall automatically go into effect.

PUC's decision arose after CUC and its consultant filed a collaborative investigation report last June 15 that justified the need for the adjustment. CUC said the increase aims to address its $5.99 million water and wastewater revenue deficit.

Under the new wastewater rate, residential customers would pay a monthly service charge of $5.60 starting June 5 from the current rate of $3. This rate would go up to $8.20 on Sept. 4, 2009.

For residential wastewater customers—metered or estimated—$.50 cents is being charge to those using over 5,000 gallons; additional $0.93 cents starting June 5 for over 5,000 gallons; while $1.37 would be added in September for over 5,000 gallons.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DPW09-RFP-020

CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE CNMI RIGHTS-OF-WAY MANUAL FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO.CM-NH-0075 (002)

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through Secretary of Public Works, are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified companies or individuals to provide **Consultant Services for the Preparation of the CNMI Rights-of-Way Manual, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.**

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is **not available** because its use is prohibited by the federal Law granting the funding for this project. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with **§ 70-30.3-310** of the Procurement Regulations.

The Scope of work will be available on or after June 23, 2009 at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan. A Pre-proposal Conference is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works, Conference Room 2nd Floor, Gualo Rai Commercial Building on July 9, 2009. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Joseph M. Inos, Jr., Director of Technical Services Division 2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai Center, Saipan or faxed to (670)234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time July 16, 2009.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

Qualifications of the company or individual – **30%**
Past Experience on similar projects – **40%**
Current workload and ability to perform the scope of work – **30%**

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"DPW09-RFP-020"**. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposal must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 am local time July 21, 2009. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a **Notice of Intent to Propose**. Notices of Intent to submit proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, July 21, 2009 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via email to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 21, 2009 and must be received no later July 30, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of proposal.

Discussions shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the responsible proposers who submit proposals determined to be most reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purposes of clarification and to insure full understanding of, and responsiveness to, solicitation requirements. A fee shall be negotiated with the highest qualified consulting firm at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the Government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then another firm may be selected in the order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed. Award will be made to the responsible proposer whose proposal is determined to be most advantageous to the CNMI Government taking into consideration price and the evaluation criteria set out in this RFP. No other factors or criteria shall be used in the evaluation.

The successful proposer will be subject to a responsibility determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

All response to this RFP shall take into account all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded a contract for this project.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal in the best interest of the Government. All proposals shall become the property of the Government.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and to waive any imperfections in any Proposal in the best interest of the Government. All Proposals shall become property of the Government.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement and Supply

Ex-BMV staff arrested over driver's license scam

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Police arrested on Friday night a former employee of the Department of Public Safety's Bureau of Motor Vehicles who allegedly conspired with an overstaying foreign national to illegally issue CNMI driver's licenses.

Police served the arrest warrant on Dereck Robert Duenas at 7:45pm on Mt. Tapochau, according to court documents.

Duenas, 30, was brought to the Superior Court yesterday for a bail hearing on charges of bribery, conspiracy, and misconduct in public office.

Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo imposed a $5,000 cash bail for Duenas' temporary liberty. Preliminary hearing was set for June 30 at 1:30pm.

Saipan Tribune learned that Duenas used to work as a driver's license examiner at the bureau. He resigned from the bureau two weeks ago.

Police arrested Duenas' alleged accomplice—50-year-old Dong Hyen Kim—Thursday afternoon.

Sources said it was the Office of the Public Auditor that actually uncovered the alleged scam when a former employee of the Department of Public Safety spilled the beans.

A detective stated in his report that Kim and Duenas conspired to help some driver's license applicants pass written and actual driving tests in exchange for a fee.

The detective said the investigation began when an anonymous caller informed the Office of Public Auditor last May 5 about the illegal issuance of driver's licenses happening at the bureau.

The OPA's Local Task Force White Collar Public Corruption Unit conducted the investigation.

Police investigation showed that Kim, who allegedly has an illegal immigration status since 2002, has been a regular client at the bureau.

Bill seeks to make guest workers shoulder part of health insurance

The House Committee on Health, Education & Welfare will conduct a public hearing today to receive comments on a bill that would require foreign workers to pay part of their medical insurance and costs.

House Bill 16-232, HS1, if passed, would also authorize employers of foreign workers to deduct from these workers' wages a medical insurance coverage as co payment.

The public hearing will take place today at 10am at the CNMI Legislature on Capitol Hill, Saipan and at 6pm at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. Other hearings will be held tomorrow at 6pm at the Tinian Elementary School and on Wednesday at 6pm at the Rota Round House.

The public hearings will also seek public comments on two other bills: House Bill 16-072, "To create a visitation right for grandparents, and for other purposes"; and House Bill 16-173, HD1, "Medical Consent Act of 2008."

Copies of the bills may be obtained at the Legislature on Capitol Hill, at the Offices of Rep. Ralph DLG. Torres or the House Clerk, or may be downloaded at cnmileg.gov.mp.

Oral testimony will be received during the public hearings. To submit written testimony before the public hearing, drop it off at the Office of Rep. Ralph DLG. Torres at the Legislature, e-mail it to rep.rtorres@gmail.com or mail it to P.O. Box 500586, Saipan, MP 96950. For additional information, contact Torres at 664-8923. ***(PR)***

HEINZ & ARNOLD
Get Together

Join us this Wednesday, June 24, 2009
6:00 PM
HA Headquarters, Along As Lito Road
(former STS Office)

Please Vote in the Republican Open Primary on June 27, 2009. Polls open from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm at all regular polling stations designated by the Commonwealth Election Commission.

BIBA HA! BOTA HA!

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Heinz S. Hofschneider & Arnold I. Palacios
www.heinzarnold2009.com

Energy strategies proposed for the CNMI at summit

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Reducing the government's energy use, amending the utility rate structure, and encouraging private investment opportunities are just some of the strategies the CNMI could implement to cope with the rising cost of energy production.

These and a host of other recommendations came up during a meeting of members of the steering committee for the Energy Strategic Plan at the Energy Summit held yesterday at the Saipan World Resort, where top officials exchanged perspectives on cost-efficient energy systems and other environment issues.

The steering committee meeting was hosted by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials as part of the pre-conference activities of the 26th Pacific Islands Environment Conference, which kicks off at 8am today.

Experts discussed new technologies, held training sessions on reducing the cost of energy, and conducted a workshop on landfill gas and stormwater and erosion control during the morning sessions.

Michael Mann, CNMI program manager of EPA, facilitated the steering committee meeting attended by local officials from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Division of Environmental Quality, Department of Public Works' Energy Division, Governor's Office, and the Legislature.

Some private sector representatives also joined the meeting to help map out a strategic energy plan for the CNMI.

"EPA's role is to help the CNMI prepare the process for a short-term, medium-term and long-term energy plan with our local partners," Mann said.

He said the CNMI is entitled to a $30 million grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for this energy efficiency strategic plan and the steering committee is now in the process of laying out the overall goals for this purpose.

"We kind of brainstormed. There will be a follow-up meeting in August as we reach some agreements to undertake the process in this strategic plan," he said.

Other recommendations include studies and demonstration on a range of options that would include Tinian and Rota, investigate the effectiveness of renewable energy and efficiency, and the need for government to lead by example and demonstrate its credibility and trust to implement policies that would benefit the community.

To effectively carry out the plan, several components are being pushed, including education, proper application, maintenance, a comprehensive program for adults and the youth, marketing, reliability of the power supply, conservation, maintenance of equipment and other issues.

Issues identified for the short-term strategic plan include impact on tourism, direction of the economy, impact on local farmers and a comprehensive business analysis.

To realize these plans, some of the issues that need to be addressed are community support, political will, job creation and training, improvement in the quality of life of the community, and modern technology.

The committee's vision of an effective planning includes sustainable, affordable, reliable, clean, efficient, energy independence and security and realistic goals.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Some of the members of the steering committee of the energy strategic plan for the CNMI share their input during their first meeting yesterday, as facilitated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at the Tapochao Room of Saipan World Resort.

Couple arrested for alleged burglary at San Jose home

Police arrested on Saturday a man and his girlfriend who allegedly conspired to burglarize an apartment in San Jose in February.

Domingo Blas Cruz, 28, and Shomia Panopio Muna, 19, were arrested on charges of burglary, theft, and assault and battery.

A bail hearing was set yesterday afternoon in the Superior Court for Cruz and Muna.

Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo earlier imposed a $25,000 cash bail each for the temporary release of the defendants.

Detective Christopher Leon Guerrero said the two stole assorted jewelry worth $2,500 and $600 cash belonging to a couple who occupied one of the rooms at Pastel Inn.

Leon Guerrero said responding police officers recovered the jewelry but not the cash.

Leon Guerrero said the burglary was discovered when an alert neighbor of the victims heard noise coming from the victims' room in the afternoon of Feb. 18, 2009.

When the neighbor heard the noise she called her husband to verify whether the victims were in their room at the time.

The husband told his wife to call police because their neighbors were not inside their room at the time.

When a female officer arrived at the stairs on the ground floor, she met a man, later identified as Cruz, who had just descended from the second floor.

Cruz threw a backpack containing the stolen jewelry at the officer's chest. The suspect ran toward the back portion of the apartment and climbed over a fence.

Cruz then boarded a sports utility vehicle parked near the scene. Muna served as the driver of the vehicle.

A witness was able to jot down the license plate of the getaway vehicle, police said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Major hotels found paying flat rate for wastewater

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has uncovered in an internal investigation that 10 major commercial hotels on island were neither metered nor billed for wastewater service based on their actual wastewater system usage.

CUC made the discovery in response to an order from the Public Utilities Commission. CUC filed the report early this month.

"As a result of an internal CUC investigation undertaken in response to the commission's order, CUC determined that there were approximately 10 substantial commercial wastewater customers who were neither metered nor billed for wastewater service based upon their actual usage," the 11-page report stated.

CUC has already developed a system so it could bill the commercial customers starting this month.

"CUC expects to bill these customers either based upon metered usage or estimated usage, which reasonably reflects the actual usage," it said.

Saipan Tribune learned that these 10 hotels were paying flat fees for sewer service ranging from $25 per month to almost $1,500 monthly.

These commercial establishments are the largest wastewater customers of CUC that are discharging into its system and are not metered.

Monthly flat fees were collected from Marianas Resort & Spa, which amounted to $559; Palms Resort, $1,681; Aqua Resort, $273; Hyatt Regency, $1,430; Fiesta $776; Hafadai, $417; World Resort, $988; Saipan Grand, $400; Pacific Islands Club, $765; and Coral Ocean Point, $25.

CUC disclosed that only $7,314 was being collected monthly from these major establishments in the past several years.

"We believe that these flat fees have been in place for years, if not decades. The total is $7,314 per month or approximately $88,000 per year," CUC said.

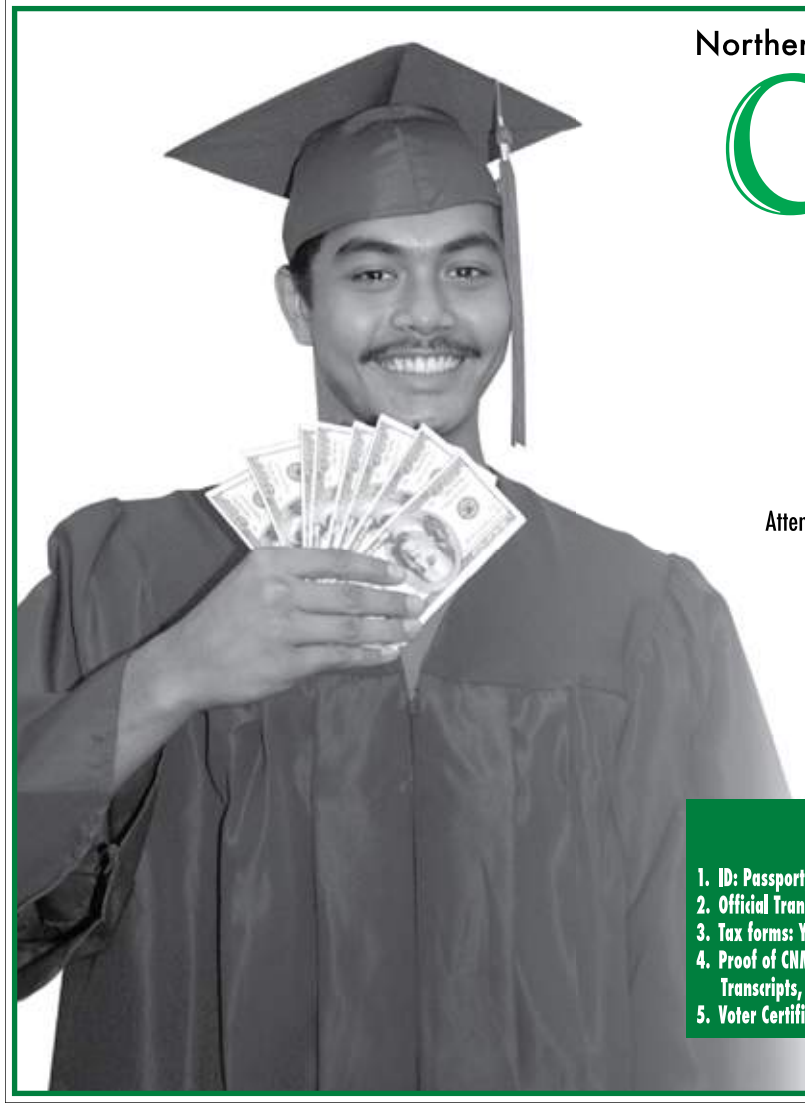
The discrepancy was identified last April when CUC conducted on-site inspection and visits to establishments.

CUC said it discussed the "problem" with these customers, and they have all expressed willingness to cooperate and address the concern.

There are two ways to meter and bill sewage flow—directly, by metering it, and indirectly, by metering water consumption.

CUC said it intends to use both methods to calculate proper bills for each of these significant commercial accounts.

Northern Marianas College and the College Access Challenge Project



Cash for College

Step-By-Step Workshop to Help
You Find Thousands of $$ For College!

Attend the FREE Northern Marianas College's Cash for College Workshop and receive personal assistance in completing forms for free application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), Saipan Higher Education Financial Aid (SHEFA),CNMI Scholarship, and other financial aid.

Thursday, June 25, 2009, Multi-Purpose Center
1st Session: 9am - 11am • 2nd Session: 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Attending the free workshop also qualifies you for a waiver of NMC's application fee and placement test fees for the Fall 2009 semester (a savings of up to $75!)

Although not required for entry into the workshop, please bring in the following documents to help you complete the scholarship forms at the workshop:
1. ID: Passport, Birth Certificate, or Green Card
2. Official Transcript from high school (at least three official copies)
3. Tax forms: Your OR your parents' signed 2008 1040 form (2008 W-2 statements if you and/or your parents did not or will not file taxes)
4. Proof of CNMI residency for 2007 and 2008 (For Example, CNMI 1040 tax form, Employment Verification from your employer, Official Transcripts, Voter's Certification, etc.)
5. Voter Certification (to show you voted in last election – Contact Election Commission for more information) – SHEFA Requirement

This ad is paid for by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, College Access Challenge Project

Fishing vessel fined $500K for illegal fishing

GUAM—Earlier this month, the owner of a foreign-flagged fishing vessel paid a $500,000 fine for fishing illegally within U.S. waters of a remote central Pacific territory, settling a nearly three-year-old case that involved a chase on the high seas.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of Law Enforcement, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Guam, made the announcement jointly in Guam last week.

The owner of the Marshalls 201, a Republic of the Marshall Islands-flagged "purse seine" fishing vessel, has agreed to pay the penalty for violating the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act for fishing illegally in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the United States adjacent to Howland and Baker Islands.

The case began Sept. 9, 2006, when the Coast Guard and NOAA conducted a joint fisheries patrol of the EEZ adjacent to the U.S. National Wildlife Refuges at Howland and Baker.

A Coast Guard aircrew aboard a C-130 long-range search plane based at Air Station Barbers Point in Honolulu sighted the crew of the Marshalls 201 with the vessel's fishing gear in the water approximately two miles inside the EEZ.

The air crew immediately contacted the crew of the Honolulu-based 225-foot Coast Guard buoy tender Walnut, which changed course and intercepted the Marshalls 201 with the intent to board the fishing vessel at sea.

After a chase at sea for more than four hours, the master of the Marshalls 201 finally 'heaved to,' or slowed down enough for the buoy tender to come alongside. Walnut's crew boarded the vessel and confirmed that it had been fishing illegally in a U.S. EEZ.

The boarding team and the Walnut ultimately escorted the vessel more than 1,200 miles to Guam to face federal court proceedings. It was later determined the Marshalls 201 caught, on that one day, 110 metric tons of tuna while fishing illegally in the U.S. EEZ.

On Oct. 4, 2006, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Guam filed a forfeiture complaint against the Marshalls 201 based on two violations of the Magnuson Act.

Under a consent decree, the vessel owner paid the $500,000 fine based on one violation of the Magnuson Act. In addition, the vessel owner, in cooperation with the flag state – or country in which it's registered, the Republic of the Marshall Islands – will allow U.S. authorities to monitor the activities of the vessel through a vessel monitoring system (VMS) for the next three years.

The vessel owner also agreed to participate in NOAA's "Global Drifter Program" by deploying drifter data buoys in remote areas of the Central Pacific Ocean on each of its fishing trips for the next five years.

Because this vessel operates in remote areas of the Pacific Ocean, its participation in the Global Drifter Program will greatly increase data from that area used in mapping surface currents, sea surface temperature, and other data critical to climate forecasting and drift modeling, including models used in search and rescue operations. This is the first time participation in the Global Drifter Program has been used as a term for settlement in a NOAA enforcement action.

"Enforcement in the remote waters of the U.S. Pacific islands is essential to the management and sustainability of fish and other ocean resources throughout the Pacific," said Leonardo M. Rapada, United States Attorney for the Districts of Guam & the NMI.

Howland and Baker Islands are uninhabited coral atolls located just north of the equator approximately 1,700 miles (or 3,100 kilometres) southwest of Honolulu. The islands lie almost halfway between Hawaii and Australia in an unincorporated, disorganized territory of the U.S. ***(PR)***

RECORD-BREAKING ENROLLMENT CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Northern Marianas College president Dr. Carmen Fernandez welcomes students of the Adult Basic Education program at the recent Summer Orientation. ABE witnessed a record-breaking enrollment this summer, with over 200 students joining the program. ABE is a federally funded program under NMC's Division of Community Programs & Services focused on meeting the educational needs of adult-learners in the CNMI.

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on June 23rd, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before June 23rd.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE*.

* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than June 23rd. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or visit our Customer Service Representatives at our Chalan Lau-Lau Office.

IT&E
Life in Motion

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Board of Parole
P.O. Box 502641 Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel. Nos.: (670) 664-3300 - 3302 • Fax: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL MEDIA SERVICES

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Board of Parole, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992", Notice hereby given that a Preliminary Hearing is scheduled for June 25, 2009, (Thursday) at 10:00 a.m., at the Board of Parole Office, Capitol Hill Building No. 1216, Saipan. The following individual(s) will appear before the Hearing Examiner:

A. Parolee
1. TORRES, Mark Wayne Cr. Cs#00-0012 BOP#07-004

If you have any question or information, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Ramond B. Camacho June 16, 2009
Chairman, Board of Parole

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 23, 1999

Low entry rate dulls attraction of DPS to personnel

Public Safety Commissioner Charles Ingram made a strong pitch on the need for higher salaries for police officers and revamping existing anti-crime laws in the CNMI at the conclusion of the House oversight hearing yesterday on his department which he considered a "necessary evil." Rep. Frank Cepeda, chair of the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations which initiated the hearing, likewise vowed to institute reforms in DPS through legislation. But yesterday's hearing, the last in a three-part series of investigation, seemed to have failed in tackling one major concern as the committee jumped from one issue to another, making it a "chop-suey" mix of several problems besetting the crucial department.

Bidders to power project down to 5

Only five out of nine companies deemed qualified to bid on the Saipan power project have submitted their "best and final offers" for the second phase of independent evaluation being conducted by a U.S. engineering firm. Consultants Burns & McDonnell received the proposals Friday, the deadline set for submission, according to a statement from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation. The five firms vying to bag the $120 million power project, considered to be largest contract ever in the Northern Marianas, are Enron Mariana Power, LLC; Marubeni-Sithe; Ogden Energy, Inc./PMIC; Saipan Power Partners and HEI Power Corporation; and the consortium of Alsons, Tomen, Singapore Power and Tan Holdings Corp.

June 23, 2000

Kagman Elementary School opening hits snag

The scheduled operation of the new Kagman Elementary School on Aug. 1, 2000, may be hampered as the Public School System race to find additional funds to hire the needed number of staff for its operation. PSS is seeking the assistance of Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to provide more money in time for the opening of the $6 million school facility . Now approximately 90 percent complete, the school lacks the appropriate number of full time staff to efficiently run the new campus for school year 2000-2001. Nearly stripped with resources, PSS officials are facing difficulty providing the ideal number of manpower to manage the school which is projected to accommodate a maximum of 675 students.

DPH assures Tanapag residents of health evaluation

Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez yesterday assured Tanapag residents that the department will carry out a thorough analysis of the effects of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination based on the medical evaluation conducted among the people in the village. Mr. Villagomez said he will send some blood samples taken from the residents for independent analysis and comparison to another laboratory, a recommendation which was earlier made by the head of the medical team currently handling the ongoing health evaluation in Tanapag. "We are not going to shortchange the people or stop halfway but we will need to wait for all the results to come out before we make any specific decisions on what to do," he said.

June 23, 2003

Govt disconnection pushed

A member of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board of directors has expressed support for a proposal to disconnect utility services to the CNMI government if it continues to fail to pay on time. Board member Velma Ann Palacios said this move should be considered in light of the current fiscal position of the utility firm. "Our comptroller has recommended disconnection of government utilities. I think we should consider that, given the current [financial] situation of the corporation. I think we should look at that and strive for that goal [of improving collections]," said Palacios during a meeting Thursday.

Customs collections up

The Division of Customs posted a combined $4.73 million in excise and user fee collections in May, reflecting a 25-percent increase in revenue collected compared with the previous month. May collections for the beverage container tax also reflected an increase-12 percent-compared with April figures, climbing from $87,575 to $98,057. Based on tracking documents obtained from the Department of Finance, May collections for user fee and excise tax collections were higher by $963,179 than the April figure, which amounted to only $3.76 million.

Island Snapshots

BEST DADS

Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan honors the 14 Outstanding Father of the Year awardees by presenting them with plaques of recognition on Sunday during the Father's Day celebration at the Hibiscus Hall. The awardees were nominated by their children and wives through an essay writing competition. From left, the best dads in the CNMI are Eduardo Elenzano, Felipe Aquino, Ferdinand Ramos, Arturo Mamaril, Francisco Babauta, Roman Agulto, Juan Inos Sr., Byoung Suk Chang, Mar Santiago, Juanario Pepito, Deogracias Manese, Jesus Pantaleon, and Teogenes Mendoza. Not in photo is Bobbie Prado.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

His wife and children present Eduardo Elenzano with a plaque of appreciation during Sunday's celebration of Father's Day at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ferdinand Ramos poses with his son and wife after being presented with a plaque of appreciation for being a best dad during Sunday's celebration of Father's Day at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Belated happy birthday to Diego Kaipat, with wishes and prayers for many more to come! Greetings come from your family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy birthday greetings go out to Duwayne Davis! We hope and pray that God will bless you with many more birthdays to come. Greetings come from the familias.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A happy Juanario Pepito, right, shares the plaque of appreciation he got with his daughters and wife for being a best dad during Sunday's Father's Day special at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to Melissa Agulto Camacho aka Melz. We love you very much and hope that you will have a great birthday this year. Greetings come from the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy birthday to Zodeanna Camacho Aldan and we pray that yo0u will celebrate many more birthdays to come. From the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Teogenes Mendoza poses with his family after being presented with a plaque of appreciation during Sunday's Father's Day celebration at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. Mendoza was one of many fathers honored at the occasion.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XIX, Issue No. 149

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Lynn A. Knight PUBLISHER
Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Free parking

The overall number of visitors to national parks has fallen over the past decade, from more than 286 million in 2000 to 275 million last year. More significant is that per capita park visitation is at its lowest since 1975. Since 1990, it has ceased to be true that the average American visits a national park at least once a year. Whether this reflects an increased interest in other forms of entertainment, a general aversion to outdoor activities or tightened family budgets, it is a distressing trend—especially as the government pumps nearly $3 billion into the parks annually to make them more enticing.

If anything, Americans have more reasons to visit our parks now than they did 10 years ago. Few activities combine exercise, history and environmental consciousness like a walk through a national park. And parks are good for the economy, generating more than $12 billion for local economies and more than 200,000 jobs. Those in search of service opportunities need look no further: The National Park Service relies on more than 140,000 volunteers to supplement its workforce and is seeking to expand its volunteer hours still further in time for its centennial in 2016.

The Park Service's announcement of "Fee-Free" weekends this weekend, July 18-19 and Aug. 15-16 may lead to a misperception. In fact, the majority—244 of America's 391 national parks—have always been "fee-free." But these special weekends provide a helpful reminder of the dozens of always free parks in the Washington area, including symbols of hope such as the Washington Monument and places of remembrance such as Arlington National Cemetery. The District of Columbia's Lincoln Memorial was one of 2008's top ten most-visited sites in the whole U.S. park system, attracting more than 4 million visitors. Yet according to a 1998 study, a scant 13 percent of visitors to the Mall were from the D.C.-Maryland-Virginia area. Surely we can do better.

Parks aspire to be what our nation aspires to be: "inspiring, safe, and accessible." They are places of stunning natural beauty and deep historical moment. They are quickly accessible by car, bus or Metro. And if you go on one of the "Fee-Free" weekends, you might get a free shopping bag.

(c) 2009, The Washington Post

SINCE THE SCANDAL, NO ONE'S THERE TO HELP THE MISERABLE, UNFORTUNATE DOWN AND OUT, ROCK-BOTTOM, LOWEST OF THE LOW!
GEE, SEN. EDWARDS... WE'RE ONLY TOO HAPPY TO HELP YOUR IMAGE!
KEVIN SIERS ©2009 CHARLOTTE OBSERVER

Who'll suit up for the GOP in 2012?

Special to The Washington Post

In the wake of the revelation of Sen. John Ensign's extramarital affair, The Post asked politicians, former officials and others to take stock of the GOP field for 2012.

LISA SCHIFFREN

Speechwriter to Vice President Dan Quayle; contributor to National Review Online's "The Corner" blog

Sen. Ensign's adultery may dim his barely risen star. But sex is over. Money is back. The next class of Republican leaders must be entirely free of financial sins. No tax cheating. No spouses on the payroll. No contracts to family members. No phony jobs at hospitals for three times the going rate or unkosher relationships with people who register voters. Clean.

If Obama's economic policies prove as ideologically motivated and profligate as they seem to conservatives, the next successful Republicans will be the substance guys. GOP leaders must offer creative policies to maintain a rising standard of living; they will respect the culture of personal responsibility and understand why economic liberty is critical. And they will present this stuff without a teleprompter.

I'm watching Gov. Mark Sanford of South Carolina, who has ideas and is a fighter; Gov. Tim Pawlenty of Minnesota, who is thoughtful but needs zing; and Sen. John Cornyn of Texas, who is principled but needs an issue to be identified with.

LANNY J. DAVIS

Special counsel to President Clinton from 1996 to 1998

Democrats' worst nightmare would be if the Republican Party nominated someone who came closest to the mixture of ideologies represented by Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush, which commanded the White House for 12 years from 1980 to 1992, and the "compassionate conservatism" that President George W. Bush ran on. That's the magic combination: a Republican who is a fiscal conservative, a social moderate and a progressive on entitlement programs for the elderly and the poor.

Who fits that portrait? I would say Mitt Romney—the real Mitt Romney, who served as governor of Massachusetts, not the plastic and pliable Mitt Romney, who flip-flopped to pander to far-right social conservatives during the 2004 campaign.

GROVER NORQUIST

President, Americans for Tax Reform

After the 2008 elections, some doubted the viability of the modern Republican Party. Now, America has trillions in additional spending and debt. The party of Mollohan, Murtha, Jefferson and Dodd is beginning to look like Jim Wright's gang.

The GOP still lacks a national leader like Ronald Reagan to tackle Barack Obama. Of course, Obama isn't on the ballot in 2010, and the GOP didn't need a Reagan for congressional victories in 1966 and 1994. But assuming that the presidency will not go the way of property rights or the sanctity of contracts before 2012, Republicans should and will pick a governor who has proved to be serious about limiting spending. Louisiana's Bobby Jindal, Minnesota's Tim Pawlenty, Texas's Rick Perry, Indiana's Mitch Daniels, Alaska's Sarah Palin, South Carolina's Mark Sanford and possible future governors such as Rudy Giuliani of New York, Bob McDonnell of Virginia and Chris Christie of New Jersey recommend themselves.

ED ROGERS

White House staffer to Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush; chairman of BGR Group

As with most presidential re-election races, 2012 will mostly be a referendum on the incumbent. If Obama's stock is down, what characteristics should a GOP alternative have? Our nominee must set a good philosophical contrast with Obama, have low negatives, be likable and be good on live TV. The core of the GOP must find him

See WHO'LL on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Letters to the Editor

E-mail clarification

The e-mail I sent to some fellow PSS employees was a simple *mistake*. I received what was nothing more than chat messages in my e-mail. The messages had no meaning and no reference to me. In fact, the e-mail that I sent my reply through only said *"thanks"* to another person and it was frustrating to open e-mails that did not apply to me.

It should be noted that there was no tag or flag on the e-mail message stating the e-mail belonged to PSS and there was no way for me to tell the e-mail addresses were from an exclusive PSS listing. There is also no policy that states an employee of PSS cannot e-mail other employees regarding political matters as the policy applies to school campuses. My message was sent outside of working hours, using my personal e-mail account in a reply to a spam message.

In response, I e-mailed an apology to the Commissioner and to the other people who pretended to be so upset about something so petty and trivial. Interestingly, one PSS employee replied to me with the following after receiving my apology: *Ambrose - Thanks for the response. No big deal. All those e-mail addresses below including mine are browser based not (pss.cnmi.mp) PSS-sever based. So technically, as far as PSS LAN usage issues are concerned, it was done in an indirect way assuming you did not know that the browser based emails in the spam you sent would be accessed through the PSS LAN. That's my opinion anyway.*

I'm sure the public is aware of my recent efforts to change and improve the governance system at PSS, which I believe is the real motivation for the complaint making it to the news. Whenever accountability is placed on administrators, the Board and the PSS system there is usually some form of retaliation. The news article was nothing more than retaliation by the source, not the Commissioner. Retaliation is a real and genuine phenomenon affecting many CNMI teachers.

My mother taught me that two wrongs will never equal one right. PSS was wrong for not tagging or flagging their e-mail if it was strictly for PSS' usage and I was wrong to send a reply to an unknown group of people. But I don't blame the commissioner for the news article because it appears the news article came from an unnamed third-party source that had close access to the Commissioner. The message she sent to me was personal and direct with no cc. I don't believe the Commissioner would have made this public without investigating it fully first—she is a smart lady. But PSS needs to ask and find out who within PSS or BOE is responsible. Whoever it was had to get their information from the Commissioner and it stinks that someone who is obviously a top administrator or BOE member can actually manipulate the Commissioner's personal e-mail and expose the contents to the public. Find the culprit and that is the real news story about who deserves an insubordination charge.

This whole thing is an excellent example of the politics within education that I mentioned in a previous letter. I was dead right and years ahead of the Board and two different COEs about PRAXIS, Tinian's principal and other PSS issues. I'm sure people with common sense who have kept up with me and education have a very good idea who instigated this mess. I believe it is really only one person playing dirty political games within the education system and I believe it is the same person who protected Tinian's principal all these years. I guess they haven't learned that what is done in the dark and behind closed doors will often to come to the light; it just takes time.

But the news article really made it clear that someone within our education system will take advantage of anything and anyone to harm my reputation. The unknown source of the article manipulated the media and the COE's email to me with the intent of giving the impression to the public that I was in trouble, which couldn't be further from the truth. I'm sure people with common sense can see this for what it really was—just another fruitless smear attack. I haven't been reprimanded by the Commissioner and clearly there is no justifiable reason for a reprimand.

Ambrose Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

Where is the retroactive money for Rota?

This issue is *redundant*! After so many years since the law for the retroactive was passed, there wasn't any action taken. Many people entitled to receive their money have no confidence at all that they will get it. Every time there is an election, they use this issue as an excuse so that they can get enough votes from the people. It is a good political tactic for the leaders to use because it deals with money. Again, the election is about to start and I am sure that this tactic will be used again. Why can't promises be fulfilled when they use this issue as a guarantee for a vote of confidence? I call this issue redundant because it is a promise being repeatedly made to the people.

What matters most is the law was never recognized. Once this issue was put into law, the Legislature should act accordingly. What happened to the leaders of Rota? This problem should be corrected as soon as possible because it deals with people's lives. The economy is in bad shape and everybody is in crisis. Why is it that the leaders do not obey the law when the retroactive has already been enacted into law? The leaders of Rota should be held accountable and people should bring them to justice for not obeying the law.

This is preposterous because the people had put their trust in our leaders and believed that they will accomplish their task as elected leaders, yet they do nothing to fulfill their obligation as public servants. This reveals that they are not working for the people. They should understand that they are working for the people but maybe they forgot or they are just sitting on the money. These kinds of leaders may be corrupt and this should be stopped in order to prevent any repeated problems in the future. The people should be innovative in selecting good leaders who will serve them well. They should refrain from the spoils system. I would like to urge all voters to be mindful this coming election by selecting a good candidate who can really work for the benefit of the whole. This is very serious because the economy is in a downturn. Please make a good decision when you vote.

Be reminded that the last midterm election, our Rota representative made a promise during his campaign that he would help make the retroactive payment possible. People relied on his word that when he's elected, the retroactive pay will be out in two months. Up to now there hasn't been any action and again he is vying for a mayoral seat in a few months. Mr. congressman, you are the vine and we are the branches. Please do not betray your people as we are counting on you. You are a very good leader but what happened to your promises during your campaign? Are you going to do the same thing again in the next election? Hope not. Please have mercy on us. Your help is important to us. Your voters are watching your production. If you can't fulfill those promises, I urge you to step down and give somebody else a chance to do the job. Please do not get offended by this but, as your strong supporter in the past, I just want to let you know that your people are desperately in need of their money as it is already a law. We are looking forward to your proper action in the near future when you're elected as a mayor.

To the voters again, I would like to ask you to vote for the right candidate this coming election. It is us who determine the right person to run the system properly. Never judge or trust the person who has a higher education or experience to run for public office. The higher education they have, the more corrupt they are. My belief is the person who has the least education will make a big difference for Rota. So please determine and exercise your prerogative. Good luck Rota!

Melvin Manglona
Yona, Guam

Thank you

I, Benjie Ladringan, instructor in Basic Electronic Class at the Kagman High School, would like to personally thank MCV and IT&E for granting my request to share with us what new technology they have. Through this seminar, students of Kagman High School became familiar about MCV and IT&E's advance technology, specifically fiber optic cable, which MCV is currently using. I am very thankful that MCV discussed about fiber optic cable. The students learned a lot about the technology because MCV presented it very well. IT&E gave some advice and shared their experiences. They encouraged the students to continue their studies and motivated them by giving examples based on their own experiences when they were in high school. The students' study habits became better after the seminar. I am very proud that students in Kagman High School supported the seminar and did a great job. All of this would never have materialized without the consent of our supportive school principal, Mr. Ada, who believes in me that this seminar will have a good impact on students learning. I would like to also thank all participants in the singing and impersonating games. Congratulation to Klye Misa, best singer in the game and Kenneth Aguon for being the best at impersonating. Congratulations to all my students who passed my subject in Basic Electronics—a total of 51 students for this second semester. And to all those who worked on their AM radio and amplifier project, I am very proud of you. Always keep in mind: "Learning is the ladder to your success. Don't stop even if you fail. Keep trying to make things better. Failure and success goes together. Nobody reaches success without experiencing any failure. It's the spice of life." Also thanks to Mr. Sangalang, teacher in woodcraft class, for helping us with our project by building us a plywood board.

Benjie Ladringan
Kagman High School

WHO'LL

From Page 1

or her philosophically acceptable, and libertarian independents must find the nominee credible. We should also be careful about a nominee who is unacceptable to a large bloc of the Hispanic vote.

Whom does this leave us? I'm going to resist the temptation to name names, but it is unlikely that we will have a nominee who bursts onto the scene the way Obama did. Republicans are hierarchical, and we always nominate the second-place finisher from the last nomination contest. But that's a problem for us in 2012. Who came in second to Sen. McCain? Was it Mitt Romney? Mike Huckabee? Did Sarah Palin, as the vice presidential nominee, receive an honorary second-place finish?

The entire GOP field starts in no better than fourth place. And who will emerge depends more on Obama than it does on our own candidate's circumstances or ability. So it's impossible to know if 2012 will be a real contest or if the GOP field will just be positioning for the race in 2016, when the Obama era will end for certain.

DOUGLAS E. SCHOEN

Democratic pollster and author

In the wake of the Ensign, Craig and Vitter sex scandals, it will most likely take someone unabashedly committed to traditional family values to motivate the shrinking base of a deeply shaken Republican Party. Mike Huckabee, as an evangelical minister, and Mitt Romney, as someone who has brought missionary-like zeal to all his endeavors—religious, familial and professional—potentially have the visibility and credibility necessary to fill this void.

But it is just not enough to be pious, passionate about your faith and family, and monogamous. Neither man has developed an optimistic, pro-growth, fiscally prudent set of policies to take advantage of the doubts that voters are beginning to show toward the Obama administration's economic policies. For the Republicans to take advantage of the political opportunity that may well be developing, they need to recognize that moral self-righteousness is only the first step necessary toward reclaiming their stature in American political life.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°

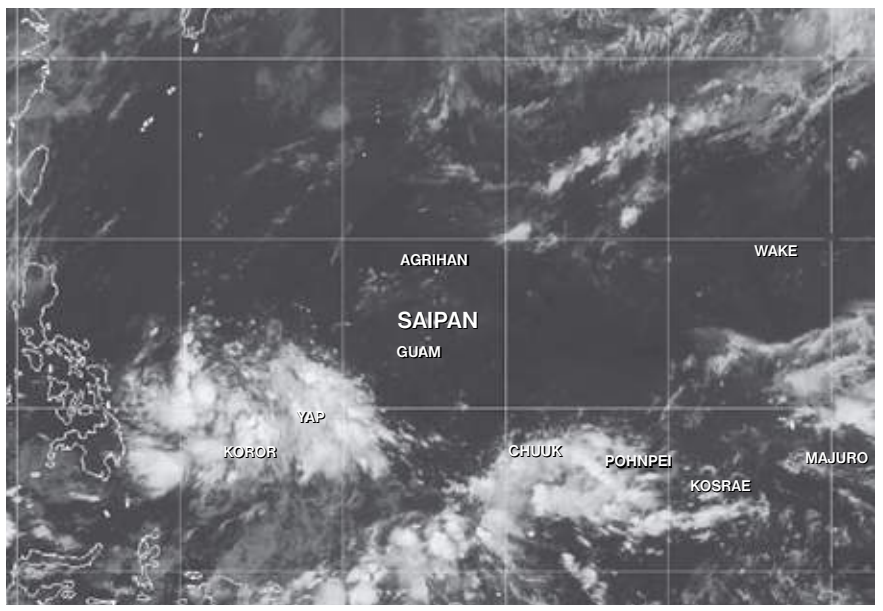
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲86	▼76
Palau	Showers	▲85	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲87	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲83	▼75
Kosrae	Rain	▲88	▼77
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲55	▼41
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲97	▼68
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲91	▼81
Honolulu	Showers	▲82	▼75
London	Cloudy	▲73	▼52
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲78	▼62
Manila	Thundershowers	▲87	▼79
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲61	▼51
Miami	Thundershowers	▲90	▼77
New York	Showers	▲75	▼64
Osaka	Showers	▲84	▼65
Paris	Sunny	▲75	▼57
Pusan	Sunny	▲88	▼69
Rome	Partly Sunny	▲75	▼56
Salem	Partly Sunny	▲78	▼51
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲75	▼55
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼61
Tokyo	Showers	▲73	▼66
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲81	▼68

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front north of the discussion area is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms within 125 miles of a line from 22N148E to 24N154E. A surface trough extends eastward from 8N130E to a circulation near Yap at 8N137E then southeastward to end at EQ148E. A second surface trough extends northward from the circulation to end at 15N138E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found over Koror and Yap between 4N and 15N from 130E to 140E. Trade-wind convergence is producing cloudiness, scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over a large area over Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae, Kwajalein and Majuro. The area is bounded by a line from 11N165E to 11N157E to 6N148E to EQ142E to EQ155E to 8N160E to 9N170E to 6N173E to 4N180 to 11N172E back to 11N165E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
1:43 PM Today	Low Tide:	1.4 Feet
6:30 AM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
2:09 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
9:27 PM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:50 AM	7:23 PM
Wednesday	6:59 AM	8:22 PM
Thursday	8:05 AM	9:14 PM
Friday	9:08 AM	8:01 PM
Saturday	10:07 AM	10:43 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 9, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7

SAIPAN-GUAM

CO9317	4:30am	5:20am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

CO9598	2:20am	2:50am	5, 6
CO9312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-PALAU (ROR)

CO893	5:50pm	6:50pm	3, 5
CO953	6:50pm	7:50pm	1, 7
CO953	7:35pm	10:05pm	2, 4, 6

PALAU (ROR)-MANILA

CO893	7:35pm	9:10pm	3, 5

GUAM-MANILA

CO893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via ROR
CO933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR111	6:00am	7:45am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

NW99	6:00am	8:40am	Daily
NW78	9:00am	2:05pm	Daily via NGO
NW75	3:50pm	6:25am	Daily

GUAM-NARITA (NRT)

CO961	6:35am	9:10am	Daily
NW83	8:00am	1:55pm	Daily via KIX
CO6	12:00pm	2:45pm	Daily
NW73	4:05pm	7:00pm	Daily
CO963	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1
OZ119	4:20am	7:00am	4,6

GUAM-OSAKA (KIX)

NW83	8:00am	10:45am	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

NW78	9:00am	11:40am	Daily

GUAM-NAGOYA (NGO)

CO971	7:45am	10:30am	Daily
NW23	4:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
CO975	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	excl 1
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1 via KIX
OZ119	4:20am	11:20am	4, 6 via KIX

SEOUL (ICN)-HONG KONG

OZ721	9:05am	11:45am	Daily
OZ723	7:45pm	10:30pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-MANILA

OZ701	8:35am	11:25am	Daily
OZ703	7:50pm	10:50pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

CO9598	3:25am	4:00am	5, 6
CO9312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

CO9316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
CO9598	2:20am	4:00am	5, 6 via ROP
CO9596	7:00am	5:00am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily x6
CO9312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

CO9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

PALAU (ROR)-GUAM

CO954	1:10am	5:30am	3, 5, 7
CO954	1:45am	4:40am	1, 2
CO892	2:35am	5:30am	4, 6

MANILA-PALAU (ROR)

CO892	10:10pm	1:50am+1	3, 5

MANILA-GUAM

CO892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3, 5 via ROR
CO934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR110	10:00pm	4:00am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

NW76	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW77	6:30pm	1:40am+1	Daily via NGO
NW100	7:50pm	12:30am+1	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-GUAM

NW74	10:00am	2:50pm	Daily
CO962	10:30am	3:00pm	Daily
CO7	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
NW84	6:20pm	1:40am+1	Daily
CO964	8:25pm	1:00am+1	Daily
NW82	8:30pm	1:05am+1	4
NW82	8:30pm	1:20am+1	X 4

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	3, 5, 6

OSAKA (KIX)-GUAM

NW84	9:05pm	1:40am+1	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN

NW77	9:10pm	1:40am	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-GUAM

NW24	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
CO970	11:30am	4:30pm	Daily
CO972	8:25pm	12:55am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	3, 5, 6 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	excl 7

HONG KONG-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ724	12:30am	5:05am	Daily
OZ722	1:15pm	5:45pm	Daily

MANILA-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ702	12:45pm	5:45pm	Daily
OZ704	11:50pm	4:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

Business

Iacocca: GM, Chrysler should repay US loans fast

DETROIT (AP)—Former Chrysler CEO Lee Iacocca has some advice for the people who are running his old company, and those who will lead the new General Motors: Get the government out of your business as soon as possible.

Iacocca, a slick pitchman who became an American hero in the early 1980s when he used over a $1 billion in government loan guarantees to rescue the nearly defunct Chrysler, said in a recent interview with The Associated Press that government intervention was strong motivation to repay the loan early.

"They're on you day and night. Their oversight is just too extreme," said Iacocca, who is promoting a new limited-edition customized Iacocca Ford Mustang. "That's why our 10-year loan, we paid it back in three years. We couldn't stand the government. The bureaucracy kills you."

AP

In this May 21, 2007 file photo, Former Chrysler CEO Lee Iacocca speaks at the 70th Luncheon of the Metro-Detroit Book and Author Society in Livonia, Mich.

Now Chrysler and GM, in the midst of a brutal recession and the worst auto sales slump in a quarter-century, each are receiving billions in government loans. Chrysler exited bankruptcy protection in 42 days, while General Motors Corp. remains in Chapter 11.

Already, the Treasury Department's auto task force, which is overseeing the automakers, has forced out both companies' chief executives and is remaking their boards. It engineered Fiat's takeover of Chrysler, which came with a shake-up of top management.

Iacocca, now 84 and living in Bel Air, Calif., seemed appalled that the government is once again involved in Chrysler's business, but he said without taxpayer money, Chrysler and GM could have collapsed and caused a nationwide unemployment disaster with thousands of additional jobs lost.

He's optimistic that Detroit automakers can rebound and said he has faith that Fiat Group SpA CEO Sergio Marchionne will rescue Chrysler. He said he's also impressed with how Ford Motor Co.'s leadership has kept America's No. 2 automaker free of government loans.

Iacocca said he would invest in Chrysler now if he could, as well as Ford, but he's apprehensive about GM's future.

Fed unlikely to try new aids for economy, for now

WASHINGTON (AP)—With the recession easing, Federal Reserve policymakers are unlikely to launch any major new efforts to revive the economy when they meet this week. Instead, Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues, wary of overdoing the stimulus medicine and fanning inflation later, are expected to stand pat, economists say.

The Fed has taken unprecedented steps to try to lift the country out of recession. They include a bold effort announced in March to plow $1.2 trillion into the economy in an attempt to lower interest rates and spur more spending by Americans.

"There are a lot of good signs that an economic recovery could get under way later this year, and with inflation currently low, the Fed for now has the luxury of sitting back and watching this recovery unfold," said John Silvia, chief economist at Wachovia.

Home sales have firmed, housing construction posted a gain last month, layoffs are slowing and consumer spending is showing signs of stabilizing.

When they open a two-day meeting Tuesday, Fed policymakers are widely expected to hold a key lending rate to banks at a record low near zero and repeat a pledge to hold rates there for "an extended period." Most economists say that means the Fed will keep its targeted range for its bank lending rate between zero and 0.25 percent through the rest of this year and probably into part of next year to help brace the economy.

Analysts generally think the economy in the current April-to-June quarter is still declining—perhaps at a pace of 1 percent to 3 percent—but not nearly as much as it had been. The economy sank at a 6.3 percent rate in the final quarter of 2008 and at a 5.7 percent pace in the first quarter this year.

Upward tick in gas prices may be coming to an end

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—After rising nearly every day for the past two months and climbing 67 percent so far this year, it looks like gasoline prices may be ready to take a break.

Gas prices were up for a 54th straight day Sunday, by 0.1 cents, to a new national average of $2.693 a gallon, according to auto club AAA, Wright Express and Oil Price Information Service.

The recent run-up exceeds anything that oil analysts say they have seen since the 1970s. But the streak should end Monday or Tuesday, Tom Kloza, publisher and chief oil analyst for OPIS, said Sunday.

The Energy Information Administration reported that gasoline stockpiles grew last week by 3.4 million barrels, or 1.7 percent, much more than the 650,000 barrels that analysts had expected.

The bigger supply has pressured wholesale prices across the country, as demonstrated by a 10-cent drop to $1.93 a gallon Friday on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Prices on the West Coast fell 27 cents last week to $1.931 a gallon and were down 15 cents to $1.94 in the Chicago area that serves the upper Midwest. Those declines eventually will pass through to the consumer.

The question now is whether prices, which usually peak in the U.S. around the July 4th holiday, will backslide into the fall or if geopolitical problems in Iran and Nigeria will drive oil—and gasoline prices—even higher after a short dip.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Iran buying more from US in spite of tensions

WASHINGTON (AP)—Iran spent nearly twice as much on U.S. imports during President Barack Obama's first months in office as it did during the same period in 2008, showing that despite trade penalties and tense relations, the two countries are still doing business. The U.S. exported $96 million in goods to Iran from January through April, according to an Associated Press analysis of U.S. government trade data compiled by the World Institute for Strategic Economic Research in Holyoke, Mass. U.S. exports to Iran totaled $51 million during the same period in 2008 and $27 million over those months in 2007. Soybeans, wheat and medical supplies—all considered humanitarian items exempt from U.S. trade sanctions—are among the top exports this year.

Critics: Burial site for Hudson PCBs is inadequate

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP)—Later this month, the first trainloads of PCB-tainted sludge dredged from the Hudson River will arrive and, in the eyes of critics, will turn a stretch of West Texas into New York's "pay toilet." They argue that burying dirt so toxic that General Electric Co. will spend at least six years and an estimated $750 million to dig it up will only create a new mess for future generations to clean up. But for 15 new jobs and the little bit of money it'll bring local businesses, the folks who live near the site are willing to take the risk, however remote, of tainting the area's ground water by taking out somebody else's trash. "The city is not against it and the city is not in an uproar," said Matt White, mayor of nearby Eunice, N.M. "It is a big impact on our city and definitely positive ... so we're very comfortable with it."

Talks to resume between Globe union, management

BOSTON (AP)—Negotiations are set to resume between The Boston Globe's largest union and management over $10 million in contract concessions the Globe's owner says it needs to keep the newspaper open. The sides are scheduled to meet Monday following two marathon negotiating sessions last week. Two weeks ago, members of the Boston Newspaper Guild narrowly rejected a contract that called for an 8.3 percent wage cut, unpaid furloughs, benefit cuts and the elimination of lifetime job guarantees for about 190 staffers.

Greener diet reduces dairy cows' methane burps

COVENTRY, Vt. (AP)—Vermont dairy farmers Tim Maikshilo and Kristen Dellert, mindful of shrinking their carbon footprint, have changed their cows' diet to reduce the amount of gas the animals burp—dairy cows' contribution to global warming. Coventry Valley Farm is one of 15 Vermont farms working with Stonyfield Farm Inc., whose yogurt is made with their organic milk, to reduce the cows' intestinal methane by feeding them flaxseed, alfalfa, and grasses high in Omega 3 fatty acids. The gas cows belch is the dairy industry's biggest greenhouse gas contributor, research shows, most of it emitted from the front and not the back end of the cow. "I just figured a cow was a cow and they were going to do whatever they were going to do in terms of cow things for gas," said Dellert. "It was pretty shocking to me that just being organic wasn't enough, actually. I really thought that here we're organic, we're doing what we need to do for the planet, we're doing the stuff for the soil and I really thought that was enough."

Apple fans are prepared for a part-time Jobs

SEATTLE (AP)—Five and a half months ago, word that Steve Jobs would only work part-time as he recovered from a liver transplant would have sent investors into a selling frenzy, so closely linked was Apple's charismatic co-founder and CEO to the company's success.

But now, with Jobs' return to Apple just days away that prospect is a lot less daunting.

Wall Street has grappled with the implications of Jobs' illness since August 2004, when investors learned the CEO had kept a cancer diagnosis secret until after he underwent surgery. Investors feared a half-year absence would leave one of the oldest computer makers adrift, because Jobs had become the essence of the company he co-founded in 1976. But in the last few months, the company released must-have gadgets and software improvements with nary a public hiccup. Its shares have almost doubled, raising the question of how central Jobs is to Apple today?

The company's past silence on matters of Jobs' health made shareholders jittery when Jobs appeared increasingly, even alarmingly, thin last year. Easily spooked, investors sent the stock tumbling 5 percent to its lowest point in a year on a rumor last October that Jobs had suffered a heart attack.

AP

In this Sept. 9, 2008 file photo, Apple CEO Steve Jobs gestures during a product announcement in San Francisco.

Then shares slipped 2 percent in December when Apple said that Jobs would not speak as usual the next month at the annual Macworld conference, then bounced up 4 percent on Jan. 5 when Jobs explained his weight loss as a treatable hormone imbalance. They sank 7 percent a week later after Apple said he would be taking six months off because his medical problems were more complex than he initially thought.

Since then, Wall Street's whiplash has had time to heal, especially because Apple's stock has weathered the recession better than those of most of its competitors. Shares have improved 76 percent since the dark day in January when Jobs announced his leave, closing Friday at $139.48.

It is not yet clear how investors will take the latest word, that Jobs had a liver transplant two months ago in Tennessee, according to The Wall Street Journal, and that he will likely work part-time, at least at first.

Apple has not confirmed the report, and has said only that Jobs is looking forward to returning to Apple at the end of the month. Spokesman Steve Dowling had no further comment Sunday.

Nation

ACROSS THE NATION

NYT editor: We had to keep mum on Afghan abduction

NEW YORK (AP)—Deciding not to report initially on reporter David Rohde's capture by the Taliban for seven months was "an agonizing position that we revisited over and over again," *New York Times* executive editor Bill Keller said Sunday. "All along, we were told by people that probably the wisest course for David's safety was to keep it quiet," Keller said in an interview on CNN. The *Times* reported Saturday that Rohde escaped from seven months in captivity in Afghanistan and Pakistan by climbing over a wall on Friday. Rohde was abducted Nov. 10 along with an Afghan reporter and a driver south of the Afghan capital of Kabul. The *Times* kept the kidnapping quiet out of concern for the men's safety, and other media outlets, including The Associated Press, followed suit at the Times' request.

Immigration enforcement in Arizona could toughen

PHOENIX (AP)—As America's busiest immigrant smuggling hub, Arizona has earned the distinction as a place that's tough on people who sneak across the border. That reputation would harden if the Legislature and governor approve a proposal that would draw local authorities deeper into immigration enforcement and further reject the notion that immigration is the sole responsibility of the federal government. The proposal, which has cleared the state Senate and is being considered by the House, would require police to try to determine people's immigration status when they have reasonable suspicions that a person doesn't have legal status. And, if approved, Arizona would become the only state to criminalize the presence of illegal immigrants through an expansion of its trespassing law.

Great white sharks hunt just like Hannibal Lecter

WASHINGTON (AP)—Great white sharks have some things in common with human serial killers, a new study says: They don't attack at random, but stalk specific victims, lurking out of sight. The sharks hang back and observe from a not-too-close, not-too-far base, hunt strategically, and learn from previous attempts, according to a study being published online Monday in the Journal of Zoology. Researchers used a serial killer profiling method to figure out just how the fearsome ocean predator hunts, something that's been hard to observe beneath the surface. "There's some strategy going on," said study co-author Neil Hammerschlag, a shark researcher at the University of Miami who observed 340 great white shark attacks on seals off an island in South Africa. "It's more than sharks lurking at the water waiting to go after them."

Republicans demand stronger Iran response

WASHINGTON (AP)—Republicans intensified their criticism of President Barack Obama's handling of his first major test of international leadership, saying Sunday that he has been too cautious in response to Iran's postelection upheaval.

"The president of the United States is supposed to lead the free world, not follow it," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C. "He's been timid and passive more than I would like."

But in an interview released Sunday, Obama argued: "The last thing that I want to do is to have the United States be a foil for those forces inside Iran who would love nothing better than to make this an argument about the United States. We shouldn't be playing into that."

The president spoke Friday during an interview with CBS News' Harry Smith. It will be broadcast Monday on "The Early Show."

He told Pakistan's Dawn newspaper, in an interview published Sunday, that the United States has no way of knowing whether the disputed Iranian election 10 days ago was fair or not. Iranians should be able to peacefully protest the results in any case, Obama said.

That interview was also done last week. Obama said nothing about the crisis in public on Sunday, although a spokesman said he discussed Iran with foreign policy advisers in the Oval Office for more than 30 minutes. He later went golfing in Virginia.

Tehran's streets fell mostly quiet for the first time since a bitterly disputed June 12 presidential election, but there were reports that government forces appeared to be pressing arrests of defiant protesters after the official death toll swelled to at least 17.

The White House did not book any surrogates on the Sunday talk shows to defend or explain the administration's approach. Republicans used their broadcast appearances to call the president timid or feckless, while the Democrat who leads the Senate Intelligence Committee said the U.S. had no hand in the disputed election.

Like other Democrats who spoke Sunday, Sen. Dianne Feinstein backed the president's approach.

"It is very crucial as I see that we not have our fingerprints on this," she said, "that this really be ... truly inspired by the Iranian people. We don't know where this goes."

A day earlier, Obama invoked the American civil rights struggle to condemn violence against demonstrators, some of whom have carried signs in English asking, "Where is My Vote?"

It was his strongest statement on what has become the most significant challenge to Iran's ruling structure since the Islamic revolution 30 years ago, but it stopped short of demanding a recount or new election, as many of the demonstrators seek.

He avoided mentioning either incumbent President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad or his principal challenger by name, and said nothing about his oft-repeated campaign promise of a fresh start in diplomatic talks with the main U.S. adversary in the Middle East.

Obama's defenders say his measured response speaks up for human rights while preserving U.S. options and lessening the chance that he becomes a scapegoat for the cleric-led government, which has blamed the West for stirring up street protests that turned into bloody clashes with police and militia.

AP

In this photograph provided by CNN, Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind, appears on "State of the Union" Sunday, June 21, 2009 at the CNN studios in Washington. Lugar says the United States should still sit down with Iran, despite post-election turmoil in Tehran.

Obama's own party worried health plan lacks votes

WASHINGTON (AP)—A Republican senator seeking a bipartisan health deal spoke Sunday of "dialing down" expectations while one of President Barack Obama's Democratic allies questioned whether the White House had the votes necessary for a such a costly and comprehensive plan during a recession.

Obama's proposal to provide health insurance for some 50 million Americans who lack it has become a contentious point for a Democratic-controlled House and Senate struggling to reach a consensus Obama desperately wants.

Much of the concern came after the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimated that the plan would cost $1 trillion over 10 years but cover only about one-third of those now lacking health insurance.

Democrats protested that the estimate overlooked important money-savers to be added later. But Republicans seized on the costly projection and the bill's half-finished nature, throwing Democratic leaders on the defensive.

Sen. Chuck Grassley, the top Republican on the Finance Committee, said officials would have to rethink their best-case scenario for providing a sweeping overhaul of the health care system at a relatively low price.

"So we're in the position of dialing down some of our expectations to get the costs down so that it's affordable and, most importantly, so that it's paid for because we can't go to the point where we are now of not paying for something when we have trillions of dollars of debt," said Grassley, R-Iowa.

"And we anticipate paying for it through some savings and Medicare, and from some increases in revenue," he said.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., said she wasn't certain there are enough votes in the president's own party to support the proposal.

"I think there's a lot of concern in the Democratic caucus," she said.

The overhaul's chief proponent in the Senate, Chris Dodd of Connecticut, urged patience as lawmakers continued working on the bill. However, Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., said the bill's cost was problematic. "You do the math," McCain said. "It comes up to $3 trillion. And so far, we have no proposal for having to pay for it."

Palin spars with critics over ethics complaints

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin says her political enemies are abusing state law with a flurry of frivolous ethics complaints against her, putting her more than $500,000 in legal debt.

Those filing the grievances—there have been at least 18 cases so far—say it's their legal right to hold the Republican governor accountable for what they see as abuses of power.

The truth is probably somewhere in between.

"Are Alaskans outraged, or at least tired of this yet—another frivolous ethics charge by a political blogger?" Palin asked in one statement.

Most of the complaints have been filed since last August, when GOP presidential candidate John McCain picked Palin as his running mate. And most have been denied.

Palin's office has called the multiple dismissals "mounting evidence that accusations of wrongdoing by the governor lack merit and have been politically or personally motivated."

Even some of Palin's critics question the validity of some of the complaints, and her supporters have waged a weeklong Webathon to raise money for a legal defense fund set up for the governor, ringing up more than $109,000 by day seven, Sunday.

But the number of filings may also reflect a broader awareness of ethics law in Alaska, where any citizen can send in any number of complaints. Some say they're taking Palin up on her own challenge to Alaska voters.

"She said she was going to be open, transparent and wanted people to hold her accountable," said Kim Chatman, an Eagle River resident whose complaint against Palin is among the few still pending. "I took her for her word."

All the complaints have been brought by Alaskans, except for one filed by Washington-based Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics alleging the $150,000-plus designer wardrobe the Republican Party bought to outfit Palin in her national quest violated the Federal Election Campaign Act. That complaint was dismissed.

One complaint, in which the Alaska Personnel Board found no wrongdoing, concluded with the governor agreeing to pay the state $10,000 for trips taken by her children—money that is due Tuesday.

NM police looking for two suspects in Denny's killing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—Police on Sunday were searching for at least two more suspects they believe killed a teenage worker during a robbery at a packed Denny's and committed 10 more armed robberies in Albuquerque this past year.

Two suspects were arrested within minutes of the crime Saturday on suspicion of murder, kidnapping, robbery and child abuse because there were at least five children in the restaurant, Albuquerque Police Officer Nadine Hamby said.

Hamby said the men who were arrested are in their late 20s to early 30s and are from South America, but she did not know where specifically. She said police were working with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to verify the men's identities.

Hamby said at least four masked men with rifles and handguns rushed into the northwest Albuquerque Denny's around 9:30 a.m. Saturday and demanded money.

A teenage female employee was fatally shot during the robbery. Police have not yet identified her.

One restaurant employee told police a manager was forced to open the cash register and the robbers took an undetermined amount of cash.

Hamby said police believe the men committed 10 similar robberies in the Albuquerque area in the past year, but no one was shot in those incidents. She would not provide further details.

She said about 35 detectives, who were in the area as part of a special operation targeting robberies, responded to the restaurant and found two of the suspects quickly.

Asia

NKorea threatens to harm US if attacked

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea boasted of being a "proud nuclear power" and threatened Monday to harm the U.S. if attacked as tensions mounted over a possible crackdown on exports of suspected missile parts from the North.

President Barack Obama said the U.S. is ready to cope with "any contingencies" involving North Korea and vowed not to "reward belligerence and provocation."

South Korea's YTN news network reported Sunday that a U.S. Navy destroyer tailing a North Korean ship suspected of carrying missiles and related parts was headed toward Myanmar in what could be the first test of new U.N. sanctions against the North over its recent nuclear test.

The sanctions—punishment for an underground nuclear test North Korea conducted May 25—firm up an earlier arms embargo against North Korea and authorize ship searches in an attempt to thwart the regime's nuclear and ballistic missile ambitions.

On Monday, North Korea's main Rodong Sinmun newspaper called it "nonsense" to say the country is a threat to the U.S., and instead claimed Washington was the one threatening the North. The paper also warned in a commentary that the country is prepared to strike back if attacked.

"As long as our country has become a proud nuclear power, the U.S. should take a correct look at whom it is dealing with," the editorial said. "It would be a grave mistake for the U.S. to think it can remain unhurt if it ignites the fuse of war on the Korean peninsula."

The Rodong Sinmun also denounced Obama's recent pledge to defend and protect South Korea—even promising to keep Seoul "under the U.S. nuclear umbrella"—as an attempt to attack the North with atomic bombs. Obama made the commitment in a joint statement after a summit last week with South Korea's President Lee Myung-bak.

North Korea calls its nuclear program a deterrent against the U.S., which Pyongyang routinely accuses of plotting to topple the communist regime. The U.S., which has 28,500 troops in South Korea, has said it has no such intentions, and has no nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula.

Obama said the U.S. is prepared for any North Korean provocation, including the regime's reported threat to test-launch a long-range missile toward Hawaii.

Japanese media have reported that the North Koreans appear to be preparing for a long-range test planned sometime around July 4, the Independence Day holiday. Defense Secretary Robert Gates has ordered additional protections for Hawaii as a precaution.

AP

A South Korean tourist walks past a posting of North Korea's map and a flag at an observation post in Ganghwa, located inside of the civilian passage restriction line that separates the two Koreas since the Korean War, South Korea, Sunday, June 21, 2009.

"This administration—and our military—is fully prepared for any contingencies," Obama said Friday during an interview with CBS News' "The Early Show" to be broadcast Monday.

"I don't want to speculate on hypotheticals," Obama said. "But I want ... to give assurances to the American people that the t's are crossed and the i's are dotted in terms of what might happen."

A North Korean cargo ship, the Kang Nam, is expected to travel to Myanmar via Singapore, YTN said, citing an unidentified intelligence source in South Korea.

Myanmar's military government, which faces an arms embargo from the United States and the European Union, reportedly has bought weapons from the North in the past.

Two U.S. officials said Thursday that the U.S. military had begun tracking the ship, which left a North Korean port on Wednesday.

One official said it was uncertain what the Kang Nam was carrying but that it had been involved in weapons proliferation before. Both spoke on condition of anonymity in order to discuss intelligence.

A senior U.S. military official told The Associated Press on Friday that a Navy ship, the USS *John S. McCain*, is relatively close to the North Korean vessel but had no orders to intercept it under the Security Council resolution and had not requested that authority. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue.

Four rockets hit US base in Afghanistan, 2 troops dead

KABUL (AP)—A rare rocket attack on the main U.S. base in Afghanistan early Sunday killed two U.S. troops and wounded six other Americans, including two civilians, officials said.

Bagram Air Base, which lies 25 miles (40 kilometers) northeast of Kabul, is surrounded by high mountains and long stretches of desert from which militants could fire rockets. But such attacks, particularly lethal ones, are relatively rare.

Two U.S. troops died and six Americans were wounded, including four military personnel and two civilians, said Lt. Cmdr. Christine Sidenstricker, a U.S. military spokeswoman.

The top government official in Bagram, Kabir Ahmad, said several rockets were fired at the base early Sunday. A spokesman with NATO's International Security Assistance Force said that three rounds landed inside Bagram and one landed outside. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't the office's top spokesman.

The wounded personnel were taken to the main hospital on Bagram for treatment. ISAF said it wasn't known if any Afghan civilians living near the base were harmed in the attack.

It wasn't immediately clear if New York Times reporter David S. Rohde was at Bagram on Sunday when the rockets hit.

Rohde escaped from kidnappers in Pakistan on Friday after more than seven months in captivity and was flown to Bagram on Saturday. Embassy officials then gave him an emergency passport and FBI officials were guarding him, a U.S. official said Sunday on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to release the information.

A Taliban spokesman, Zabiullah Mujahid, claimed responsibility for the rocket attack. Mujahid also said the Taliban had no involvement in the kidnapping of Rohde and didn't know anything about his escape.

In February 2007, a suicide bomb attack outside Bagram killed 23 people while then-Vice President Dick Cheney was at the base. The attacker never tried to penetrate even the first of several U.S.-manned security checkpoints, instead detonating his explosives among a group of Afghan workers outside the base. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

US presses China over Internet filtering

BEIJING (AP)—Washington has expressed concern to Beijing over its new effort to censor Internet use and its possible impact on trade and access to information, the U.S. Embassy said Monday.

The U.S. pressure comes as Chinese Web surfers are lobbying the communist government to scrap its plan to require the Internet-filtering Green Dam Youth Escort software on personal computers. It is to be pre-installed or included on a compact disc with all PCs sold in China starting July 1.

American diplomats met Friday with officials of China's ministries of commerce and information technology to express concern and seek more information about the system, the U.S. Embassy in Beijing said.

"The U.S. is concerned about actions that seek to restrict access to the Internet as well as restrictions on the internationally recognized right to freedom of expression," the embassy said in a statement.

"The U.S. Government is concerned about Green Dam both in terms of its potential impact on trade and the serious technical issues raised by use of the software," it said. "We have asked the Chinese to engage in a dialogue on how to address these concerns."

Chinese officials say the Internet filtering as an effort to block access to violent and pornographic material. But Internet users have ridiculed the system and some are circulating petitions appealing to the government to scrap it.

China, which has the world's largest population of Internet users at more than 298 million, also has one of the world's tightest controls over the Internet. The government bans online pornography and this year launched a nationwide crackdown that led to the closing of more than 1,900 Web sites.

Afghan firefight shows challenge for US troops

NOW ZAD, Afghanistan (AP)—Missiles, machine guns and strafing runs from fighter jets destroyed much of a Taliban compound, but the insurgents had a final surprise for a pair of U.S. Marines who pushed into the smoldering building just before nightfall.

As the two men walked up an alley, the Taliban opened fire from less than 15 yards, sending bullets and tracer fire crackling inches past them. They fled under covering fire from their comrades, who hurled grenades at the enemy position before sprinting to their armored vehicles.

The assault capped a day of fighting Saturday in the poppy fields, orchards and walled compounds of southern Afghanistan between newly arrived U.S. Marines and well dug-in Taliban fighters. It was a foretaste of what will likely be a bloody summer as Washington tries to turn around a bogged-down, eight-year-old war with a surge of 21,000 troops.

"This was the first time we pushed this far. I guess they don't like us coming into their back door," said Staff Sgt. Luke Medlin, who was sweeping the alley for booby traps as Marine Gunner John Daly covered him from behind when the Taliban struck.

"And now they know we will be back," said Medlin, from Indiana.

The fighting was on the outskirts of Now Zad, a town that in many ways symbolizes what went wrong in Afghanistan and the enormous challenges facing the United States. It is in Helmand province, a center of the insurgency and the opium poppy trade that helps fund it.

Like much of Afghanistan, Now Zad and the surrounding area were largely peaceful after the 2001 invasion. The United Nations and other Western-funded agencies sent staff to build wells and health clinics.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Philippines: Boy accidentally kills father

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Police say a 6-year-old boy accidentally shot dead his father, a soldier home for Father's Day after fighting Muslim rebels in the south. Police Officer Hermogenes Capili says Private First Class Apolonio Pacioles asked his son to fetch his .45 caliber pistol at their home in Manila's Quezon City suburb early Sunday. Police Officer Edwin dela Cruz says the boy got the weapon and removed its magazine as his father had taught him, not knowing that a bullet was loaded in the chamber. Capili says Pacioles ignored the boy who then cocked the gun's hammer with his finger on the trigger and shot his 45-year-old father in the abdomen. Dela Cruz says the boy and his mother reported the incident to police.

Myanmar jails 2 opposition members

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—A court in military-run Myanmar has sentenced two members of pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi's party to 18 months in prison after they prayed for her release at a pagoda, the opposition party spokesman said Sunday. The news came days before Suu Kyi's trial is set to resume in a court in Yangon, the largest city. The 64-year-old Nobel Peace Prize laureate is accused of violating the terms of her house arrest. A court in southern Yangon sentenced Chit Pe and Aung Saw Wei on Tuesday after convicting them on charges of insulting religion, said National League of Democracy spokesman Nyan Win. The two were arrested in April after they led prayers for the release of Suu Kyi and other political prisoners at a pagoda in Twante, about 20 miles (32 kilometers) south of Yangon, Nyan Win said.

More than 30 militants killed in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Military jets and artillery pounded suspected militant hide-outs in two towns in Pakistan's northwest on Sunday, killing 27 fighters, officials said. Elsewhere in the volatile region, a citizens' militia killed seven suspected militants. As the violence raged, President Asif Alil Zardari claimed the entire country backs the battle against the extremists. The military has stepped up strikes in the past week on suspected militant bases in Bajur, where violence has spiked again almost five months after the military declared victory after a monthslong offensive. Two local government officials, Iqbal Khan and Nawaz Khan, said bombs dropped from planes on targets in Salarzai town killed 13 militants. In nearby Charmang, shelling killed 14 militants, the officials said. The military has attacked targets in Charmang several times in the past week.

World

Iran opposition leader vows to stand by protesters

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iranian opposition leader Mir Hossein Mousavi has vowed he will stand by the protesters whose week of defiance has deeply shaken the country, but says he won't allow their lives to be put in peril and says the security forces that bloodied them are their comrades.

The statements by Mousavi, posted on Web sites of his allies during the weekend, underline the by dangers and strategic dilemma facing the throngs who rose up last week to protest disputed election results that showed his hardline opponent, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, overwhelmingly winning a second term.

■ ■ ■

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—A backstage struggle among Iran's ruling clerics burst into the open Sunday when the government said it had arrested the daughter and other relatives of an ayatollah who is one of the country's most powerful men.

State media said the daughter and four other relatives of former President Hashemi Rafsanjani were released later Sunday but their arrests appeared to be a clear warning from the hardline establishment to a cleric who may be aligning himself with the opposition.

Tehran's streets fell mostly quiet for the first time since a bitterly disputed June 12 presidential election, but cries of "God is great!" echoed again from rooftops after dark, a sign of seething anger at a government crackdown that peaked with at least 10 protesters' deaths Saturday.

AP

Supporters of opposition leader Mir Hossien Mousavi set a fire to avoid the effects of tear gas during protest in Tehran on Saturday June, 20, 2009.

■ ■ ■

The landslide official results provoked an extraordinary outburst of huge street demonstrations—and a brutal response from police and the feared militia called the Basij. At least 10 protesters were killed on Saturday and the official death toll from the week of demonstrations stands at 17.

Iranian police said in a Monday statement that 457 people were arrested on Saturday. It did not say how many had been arrested during the rest of the week or how many remained iin custody.

Searing images posted online—including gruesome video purporting to show the fatal shooting of a teenage girl—hinted the true casualty toll may be higher. Journalists for foreign media have been put under tight restrictions and assessing the extent of the protests and violence is difficult.

Tehran's streets were mostly quiet on Sunday, but cries of "God is great" and "Death to the dictator" echoed again from rooftops after dark, a sign of seething anger at the government crackdown.

The government intensified a crackdown on independent media—expelling a BBC correspondent, suspending the Dubai-based network Al-Arabiya and detaining at least two local journalists for U.S. magazines.

English-language state television said an exile group known as the People's Mujahedeen had a hand in the street violence and broadcast what it said were confessions of British-controlled agents in an indication that the government was ready to crack down even harder.

That leaves the opposition scrambling for a way to maintain the momentum of the protests that have riveted while not bringing new bloodshed.

Mousavi warned supporters of danger ahead, and said he would stand by the protesters "at all times." But in the Web site letters, he said he would "never allow anybody's life to be endangered because of my actions" and called for pursuing fraud claims through an independent board.

The former prime minister, a longtime loyalist of the Islamic government, also called the Basij and military "our brothers" and "protectors of our revolution and regime." He may be trying to constrain his followers' demands before they pose a mortal threat to Iran's system of limited democracy constrained by Shiite clerics, who have ultimate authority.

US sends dogs to search for bomb victims in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP)—The U.S. military sent search dogs Sunday to help find more than a dozen people still missing and feared dead after the country's worst bombing this year devastated a northern Iraqi town just over a week before U.S. troops are due to leave Iraq's cities.

The truck bombing Saturday near the ethnically tense city of Kirkuk flattened a Shiite mosque and dozens of mud-brick houses around it, killing at least 75 people. Iraqi police blamed al-Qaida in Iraq, saying it was part of an insurgent campaign to destabilize the country and undermine confidence in the government.

Americans will remain ready to help, as they were in the aftermath of Saturday's bombing, but many Iraqis fear their departure after two years of a steady urban presence will prove deadly.

"Several blasts have occurred in Kirkuk, Baghdad and even in Fallujah, which shows that our forces aren't ready," said Saif Hassan, a 22-year-old university student in Baghdad. "None of my classmates support the hasty withdrawal because we expect more violence to erupt."

Another bomb exploded Sunday evening in a cafe in a Shiite enclave in a mainly Sunni area of southern Baghdad, killing at least two civilians and wounding 13, police said.

The timetable set in a security pact calls for U.S. combat troops to withdraw from cities by June 30—the first stage of a full withdrawal by the end of 2011.

Violence has declined dramatically in the past two years, but a string of high-profile bombings have raised fears that insurgents are regrouping.

Assad Salah, who lives in Baghdad's main Shiite district of Sadr City, which saw some of the fiercest fighting of the war, expressed confidence in Iraqi security forces.

"The U.S. troops' departure ... is a giant and great step. And it indicates that the Iraqi troops are capable of keeping security and order in this country," he said.

Politicians from all sides also urged people to remain calm.

U.S. and Iraqi officials have warned that mainly Sunni insurgents are still able to stage attacks in a bid to stoke sectarian violence despite setbacks. But commanders say the fact that retaliatory bloodshed has not resumed shows security gains are holding.

Iraqis need "to be cautious and careful because the security

Ingush president wounded in bomb attack

NAZRAN, Russia (AP)—A car bomb exploded as the president of the troubled Russian region of Ingushetia passed by in his convoy Monday morning, critically wounding him and killing several others, officials said.

Yunus Bek Yevkurov was the third top official to be wounded or killed in Ingushetia in the past three weeks and the fourth in Russia's turbulent North Caucasus this month.

The explosion occurred around 8:30 a.m. (0430 GMT) as Yevkurov traveled outside the Ingush regional center Nazran, said Ingush Interior Ministry spokeswoman Madin Khadziyeva said. He was hospitalized in unknown condition, she said. Federal Emergency Situations Ministry officials said he was in critical condition.

Federal investigators said a car that was parked on the side of the road detonated just as Yevkurov's car passed.

Several other people were wounded or killed in the attack, federal investigators said. ITAR-Tass and Interfax said three bodyguards were killed, including Yevkurov's brother.

Ingushetia is home to hundreds of refugees from the wars in Chechnya, to the south, and is one Russia's poorest regions. Like other North Caucasus regions, it has seen an alarming spike in violence in recent years.

Much of the violence is linked to the two separatist wars that ravaged Chechnya over the past 15 years, but persistent poverty, corruption, feuding ethnic groups and the rise of radical Islam also are blamed.

World's media seeks ways around Iran clampdown

CAIRO (AP)—Protesters and security forces gather. They collide in a cloud of tear gas and a shower of rocks and bottles.

In most cases—when the battles are big and the stakes are high—journalists from around the world are there. But in the possibly history-shaping struggles now unfolding in Iran, the international media has been blocked from its normal front-line role and is quickly making adjustments to counter an official ban on first-hand reporting.

Instead of the main dispatches coming from the scenes, the equation has been greatly reversed. Many major news outlets now rely on phone calls, e-mails and Web chats—and other methods—to contact Iranian protesters and officials for information that bolsters the reports from colleagues in Tehran, who must remain in their offices. The media clampdown also has been a test on other fronts: challenging the ability of authorities to control information in the Internet age and requiring editors and journalists to quickly decide what to pursue from the avalanche of rumors, tips and observations on social networking sites.

Some news organizations have added Farsi-speaking staff members to their usual coverage teams and stepped up attention to Web sites such as Twitter for comments and images that—if deemed credible—offer a wider view on the unfolding events.

Thomas Warhover, an associate professor at the Missouri School of Journalism, calls the social networks a "counterpart" to traditional reporting rather than a competitor.

"It's democratic impulses," he said. "People are going to find a way to be heard—new and exciting ways. That civil function is pretty incredible."

WORLD BRIEFS

Haitians mostly ignore Senate run-off elections

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—Haitians fed up with chronic poverty and unresponsive leaders stayed away from Senate run-off elections Sunday, ignoring government efforts to improve on the paltry voter turnout that undercut the first round of voting in April. Results are not expected for at least a week in contests for 11 vacant seats in the 30-member Senate. On the line is President Rene Preval's hope of overpowering uncooperative legislators and pushing through internationally backed economic reforms and constitutional amendments that would give his successors more power. Voting was extremely light in the capital of Port-au-Prince, though it was too soon to gauge the turnout in the rest of the country.

Guns from America fuel Jamaica's gang wars

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)—Ships from Miami steam into Jamaica's main harbor loaded with TV sets and blue jeans. But some of the most popular U.S. imports never appear on the manifests: handguns, rifles and bullets that stoke one of the world's highest murder rates. The volume is much less than the flow of U.S. guns into Mexico that end up in the hands of drug cartels—Jamaican authorities recover fewer than 1,000 firearms a year. But of those whose origin can be traced, 80 percent come from the U.S., Jamaican law enforcement officials have said in interviews with The Associated Press. And as the Obama administration cracks down on smuggling into Mexico, Jamaicans fear even more firearms will reach the gangs whose turf wars plague the island of 2.8 million people.

Pagans, partygoers greet solstice at Stonehenge

STONEHENGE, England (AP)—Pagans and partygoers drummed, danced or gyrated in hula hoops to stay awake through the night, as more than 35,000 people greeted the summer solstice Sunday at the ancient stone circle of Stonehenge. Despite fears of trouble because of the record-sized crowd, police said the annual party at the mysterious monument was mostly peaceful. "It's the most magical place on the planet," said antique salesman Frank Somers, 43, dressed in the robes of his Druid faith. "Inside when you touch the stones you feel a warmth like you're touching a tree, not a stone. There's a genuine love, you feel called to it," he said.

Overdrive

2009 INFINITI EX35 JOURNEY

An overpriced Nissan

BY WARREN BROWN
THE WASHINGTON POST

Automobile manufacturers and card-carrying members of the Nuts and Bolts Club are sticklers for accuracy. They insist on comparing cars and trucks using identical platforms, such as those with rear-wheel drive with other real-wheel-drive models of in-kind layout and dimension. Theirs is an apples-to-apples reality.

I, however, am a charter member of the Touchy-Feely League (TFL). We TFL types respect things such as component and platform differences. But we are not necessarily bound by them in our vehicle assessments, which makes Nuts and Bolts people, well, nuts.

Consider this week's test vehicle, the 2009 Infiniti EX35 Journey crossover utility wagon. It is a rear-wheel-drive machine with a wheelbase, or the center-line distance between the front and rear wheels, measuring 110.2 inches. Optional all-wheel drive is available.

The EX35 Journey has a fancy interior and a pretty powerful engine, a 3.5-liter, 297-horsepower V-6. The Nuts and Bolts crowd loves it.

But I can't muster affection for the thing. I tried. I really, truly, really tried on several long drives in the mid-Atlantic region. But in the end, I couldn't shake the feeling that the EX35 Journey is little more than a Nissan Rogue wearing a well-crafted tuxedo.

I know. The two vehicles are mechanically, technically different. The Rogue is front-wheel-drive, with an all-wheel-drive system sold optionally. It has a shorter wheelbase, 105.9 inches.

The EX35 Journey is little more than a Nissan Rogue wearing a well-crafted tuxedo. THE WASHINGTON POST

The Rogue's engine is the stuff of motoring economy—a 2.5-liter, 170-horsepower, inline four-cylinder model. It doesn't offer much excitement. But it delivers what is arguably decent mileage for a hauler of people and their stuff—22 miles per gallon in the city and 27 mpg on the highway.

With its more powerful 3.5-liter V-6, you'd think that the EX35 Journey would offer more driving fun. But it doesn't. It feels just as pedestrian as the Rogue on the highway. You feel like you're in a family transport in the Rogue. You feel no different in the EX35 Journey. Except, you get lower mileage in the EX35 Journey—17 mpg in the city and 24 mpg on the highway.

NUTS & BOLTS

BY WARREN BROWN
THE WASHINGTON POST

COMPLAINT

There's not enough difference here to make a difference, except in your pocketbook.

RIDE, ACCELERATION AND HANDLING

The performance gets a "good" mark in all three categories. But for the overall feel of the EX35 Journey, again, I'd rather take that "good" at a lower price in the Rogue.

HEAD-TURNING QUOTIENT

Imagine paying more for the EX35 Journey and then driving home to neighbors who ask: "Is that the new Nissan Rogue?"

BODY STYLE/LAYOUT

The EX35 Journey is a compact, luxury crossover utility wagon with a front-mounted engine, four side doors and a rear liftgate. It is available with standard rear-wheel drive. All-wheel drive is optional. Both it and the Rogue use car-based platforms.

ENGINE/TRANSMISSION

The EX35 Journey comes with a standard 3.5-liter, 24-valve V-6 engine that develops 297 horsepower at 6,800 revolutions per minute and 253 foot-pounds of torque at 4,800 rpm.

CAPACITIES

The EX35 Journey seats five people, same as the Rogue. The front-drive Rogue carries more luggage with the rear seats up—28.9 cubic feet versus 18.6 cubic feet for the EX35 Journey, whose rear-drive arrangement eats up cargo space. The EX35 Journey's 20 gallon fuel tank requires premium unleaded gasoline for "best performance."

SAFETY

Standard equipment in the EX35 Journey includes front and rear ventilated disc brakes with antilock protection, electronic stability and traction control, side and head air bags.

PRICE

The 2009 Infiniti EX35 Journey starts at $36,000, with a dealer invoice of $33,259. The oh-so-seemingly similar Nissan Rogue starts at $21,810 with a dealer invoice of $20,334. Prices are sourced from Infiniti (Nissan's luxury division), Nissan, Edmunds.com and Cars.com, an affiliate of The Washington Post.

PURSE-STRINGS NOTE

Critics would be right to attack this review as a technical apples-to-oranges comparison. But we're still talking about fruit—in this case, two vehicles with similar external styling, especially in the rear quarters, and identical missions—to haul people and stuff. Frankly, I think the Nissan Rogue is a much, much better deal.

California dreamin' in Europe

By DAN NEIL
(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

THE BLACK FOREST, Germany—Brace yourself for the VW California: This is the Westy of your dreams: a state-of-the-art camper van with a gas stove, running water, electrically deployed pop-top, a fold-down double bed, rotating front captain's chairs and a staggering number of reading lights, climate outlets, cabinets, storage bins and convenience features, and all of it executed with the kind of aerospace precision one might associate with Piaggio corporate jets.

Now, obviously, this isn't your beloved split-window Westy, in which I'm sure you sired many a love child you later named Summer and Prometheus. Where once there were gingham curtains, the neo-Westy has tinted and double-glazed windows and roll-out privacy screens that deploy from the window frames.

Where once there was painfully crude lacquered pine cabinetry, there's laser-cut blond wood like something that retails at Design Within Reach. The old Westy had a roll-out canvas awning, the quality of which was unknown outside certain Bedouin tribes. The California has a high-tech laminated awning that cranks out on lever arms.

LOS ANGELES TIMES
The 2009 VW California Biker goes pretty quick, unlike the Westy, which moved like a heavily medicated tortoise.

LOS ANGELES TIMES
The 2009 VW California Biker can transform from a highway cruiser into an unfolded base camp. And this time, the signature pop top is automatic.

And the signature move for the Westy—the pop-top—is here a push-button electro-hydraulic affair, as opposed to the toiling, hand-crank job of decades past. The button to open and close the top is located on a central overhead control panel that also monitors camper systems such as battery levels, 230-volt connection status, "cool box" status and fresh- and gray-water levels. Nifty.

It would take too long to describe the thousand clever details of the California, such as the way the front seats rotate to face the cabin or the way the table hides away in a sliver of space beside the couch. Built into the rear hatch is a canvas compartment that neatly holds two folding chairs. It takes roughly three minutes to go from rocking down the highway to a fully established base camp, with the top up, the awning deployed and the chairs set out.

LOS ANGELES TIMES
The 2009 VW California Biker van has a gas stove, running water, a double bed and many storage bins and convenience features.

There is one more huge difference between this vehicle and the old Westy, which moved like a heavily medicated Galapagos tortoise. The California actually goes pretty quick, thanks to a heroic intercooled and turbocharged five-cylinder diesel engine, good for 174 horsepower at 3,500 rpm and a Freightliner-worthy 295 pound-feet of torque at 2,000 rpm. Backed up by a six-speed manual transmission, our California was easily in the 10-second range in accelerating to 60 and could effortlessly cruise at Autobahn speeds. The diesel also allows the big van to get 30 mpg. Amazing.

I spent the day bombing around the Black Forest in the California and, while I left no sport-bike riders crying in their helmets, I must say, the California acquitted itself well.

In a fast corner it has got body lean like a Spanish galleon, but it's manageable. Braking is secure. Steering is direct and communicative. And I'm not complaining, but VW chose to shoe this Percheron with the raciest horseshoes in the world, Dunlop SP9000 radials. What's that about?

On the downside—if this is a downside—the thing sounded positively agricultural at idle. Also, all this content comes at a cost in the not-trivial curb weight of 6,600 pounds. If you listen closely you can hear quaint wooden bridges scream as it goes over.

The overarching impression is one of exceptional, out-of-the-park quality.

NUTS & BOLTS

(c) 2009, Los Angeles Times

Price as tested: $60,000
Powertrain: Intercooled and turbocharged five-cylinder diesel engine; six-speed manual transmission; all-wheel drive
Horsepower: 174 at 3,500 rpm
Torque: 295 pound-feet at 2,000 rpm
Curb weight: 6,600 pounds
Wheelbase: 118.1 inches
Overall length: 192.5 inches
0-60 mph: 10 seconds
EPA fuel economy: 30 miles per gallon city/highway combined
Final thoughts: Camper van Beethoven

Source: Volkswagen

Life & Style

Beef & Reef on final night of Taste of the Marianas

PIC's winning chefs Chuzi Rios and Bel Gurung pose with their entry and display at the Taste of the Marianas on May 30, 2009. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By JOUSEL C. DEL CASTILLO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

The date was May 30, 2009. Dew and vapor points were at their peak. Three o'clock, people were starting to dress up their respective stalls, entertainers of all ages were practicing for the evening's performances, traffic aides were putting cones along designated parking areas, a female ranger on the lookout, vehicles unloading, technical crew installing lights and sounds…a scene of readiness and enthusiasm. It was the final leg of the 11th Taste of the Marianas.

I myself was preparing for the venue of the Beef and Reef Chef's Competition. Despite the unexpected brief shower, a co-worker and I arranged the stage, clothed the backdrop and hanged the banners of the main sponsors: Certified Angus Beef and Marianas Sweet Shrimp, under the auspices of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Marianas Visitors Authority.

Just over an hour later, participants were starting to come in—all junior chefs from five prestigious hotels. Each team of two was to come up with an entrée that blends both beef and shrimp. Taste and presentation were among the criteria that will be considered by the distinguished jurors of food experts. Sun's bidding farewell that day and we're just beginning the contest proper. The chefs were determined to win and you could feel their passion. The design and decoration on their tables were outstanding, the centerpieces were stunning, the platings were a standout and the fruit carvings were an added attraction. In short, we managed to bring out the best from these chefs.

Mel, Ken, Chef Darren, Kim, Jousel, and Jay pose with the winners. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

While spectators were swarming the contest area, I could hear from afar the local band playing reggae, while smoke from the barbecue stands wafted through the cool and clear breeze. Mr. Ken Stewart, a food critic from Guam, emceed the Chef's Competition. He introduced the four judges and expressed amazement at the entries despite getting a lesser number of teams this year. He educated the audience about the succulent Certified Angus Beef and the never-frozen Marianas Sweet Shrimp. Thanks master Ken—you've made this event a great success.

Final moments came. Judges were doing the tasting and jotting down the scores on their tally sheets. I wouldn't wish myself to be in their shoes as all the entries were awesome and will require a great deal of judgment. But they handled it well—seems difficult, but they came up with a winner.

Judges Becky, Mike, and Jim go over the various entries. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Trophies to be won. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Beefed-up buffet with the PIC *champions*

Pacific Islands Club's Seaside Grill will be hosting a "Beefed Up Buffet with the Champions" this Friday, June 26, from 5:30pm to 8pm, to celebrate the winners of the Chef's & Bartender's Competition from this year's Taste of the Marianas.

It's an all-you-can drink Henry Wienhard's Beer and Certified Angus Beef® live stations to satisfy everyone's happy-hour appetite!

During the May 30 Taste of the Marianas Food Festival and Beer Garden, PIC's tandem of Chuzi Rios and Bel Gurung romped off with the first place prize in the annual Chef's Competition, pocketing the top purse of $500, trophies, and the perpetual trophy.

The chefs' challenge, with the theme "Beef and Reef," capped the series of competitions at the American Memorial Park in May. PIC also won the first and second prizes in the bartending competition held the previous Saturday.

Rios and Gurung won with their entry—certified Angus beef flank steak stuffed with Basil Fontina cheese with shrimp Chablis sauce, and Marianas Sweet Shrimp cakes and grilled flank steak.

Rios and Gurung work at PIC's Seaside Grill and that's where the "Beefed Up Buffet" is going to happen this Friday. The buffet will feature certified Angus Beef stations plus a variety of salads and desserts, including a private bar serving sodas, Henry Weinhard's Draft Beer, special cocktails, and Miller products, all for just $20 per person. ***(PR)***

The author and Jay Santos. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Chef's Chuzi Rios and Bel Gurung of Pacific Islands Club came up triumphant. Fiesta Resort & Spa followed and Hyatt Regency came in third. PIC bagged the top prize of $500, Certified Angus Beef giveaways, MSS' cruises and trophies courtesy of MVA. The night was filled with praises, not only for the winners but to all participants as well, who displayed their creativity and ingenuity in putting together the main ingredients. They infused local produce and materials, highlighting the very essence of the celebration, which is "cultural awareness." Congratulations to all the Chefs…cheers!

The author is a sales specialist for Triple J Five Star Wholesale Foods Inc.

Justin needles his record boss about 'SexyBack'

NEW YORK (AP)—Jamie Foxx is the comedian, but he provided the music and Justin Timberlake got all the laughs at a charity event to honor their record label boss.

Timberlake, Foxx and others paid tribute to RCA/Jive Label Group President Barry Weiss on Thursday as Weiss was honored by the UJA-Federation as the group's music visionary of the year. Weiss has helped guide the careers of Britney Spears, Timberlake and 'N Sync, the Backstreet Boys and many others during his career.

Timberlake was the master of ceremonies at the event, and offered plenty of Jewish humor.

"Who am I? I'm just another schmendrick who used to be in a goy band," he said, to a room of laughter. "I don't know what the hell that means either, but I'm pretty sure that's supposed to be funny."

"Ok, that's enough schtick in the box from me," was another Timberlake one-liner.

He also needled Weiss about his lukewarm reaction to one of Timberlake's songs before it was released.

AP

From left, television journalist Diane Sawyer, actor - singer Jamie Foxx and television talk show host Gayle King attend a UJA Federation honors charity luncheon at The Pierre Hotel on Thursday, June 18, 2009 in New York.

"If I remember correctly—and trust me I do—Barry said, 'That song is not what people want from you, Justin ... That song is not going to sell,'" he said, before the speakers started to blast "SexyBack," one of his biggest hits.

"I think he was just jealous, he wanted to be the one bringing sexy back."

But in a serious moment, he called Weiss "one of the smartest, most hardworking, dedicated men working in the music business, one of the only people left in the music business who doesn't want to be in the spotlight."

Foxx performed, but didn't sing his No. 1 hit "Blame It," joking it wouldn't be appropriate for the charity event. Instead, he sang "Georgia on My Mind," the classic hit from Ray Charles, whom Foxx won an Oscar portraying.

Others in attendance included Diane Sawyer and Chris Daughtry. The UJA-Federation of New York provides services to the needy throughout the world, and supports Jewish education programs.

McGregor: 'Angels' is no challenge to Catholic faith

MIN LEE
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

SHANGHAI (AP)—Actor Ewan McGregor says the Vatican's criticism of the religious thriller "Angels & Demons" was muted compared to the previous Robert Langdon adventure "The Da Vinci Code" because the newer film doesn't challenge the Catholic faith.

Promoting the movie Sunday in China, where it is showing as the closing film at the 12th Shanghai International Film Festival, McGregor said the Vatican-set "Angels & Demons" is less controversial. In the film, the Scottish actor plays a priest who serves as a top aide to the late pope.

"There's nothing that challenges Catholic or Christian belief in the film. Really, it's just a good, old-fashioned thriller with a bomb ticking away in the background and detectives solving the clues," McGregor said at a press conference.

"There was nothing for anybody to be annoyed about, I believe," he said.

Top church officials strongly objected to the 2006 film "The Da Vinci Code" because it was based on the idea that Jesus married and fathered children and depicted the conservative Catholic movement, Opus Dei, as a murderous cult.

"Angels & Demons," which also features the Harvard symbologist Langdon from the Dan Brown novels, is about Langdon's attempt to help the Holy See thwart a plot by the ancient secret brotherhood Illuminati to kill four cardinals and bomb the Vatican as a new pope is being chosen.

The Vatican's newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano said in a review and editorial that "Angels & Demons" was historically inaccurate and filled with stereotypes, but concluded it is "harmless" entertainment and not a danger to the church.

The newspaper also praised director Ron Howard's "dynamic direction" and the "magnificent" reconstruction of locations like St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel. Much of the film was shot on sets that painstakingly recreated church landmarks.

McGregor appeared in Shanghai with co-star Ayelet Zurer.

AP

British actor Ewan McGregor listens to questions during a press conference of U.S. movie "Angels and Demons" as part of the 12th Shanghai International Film Festival Sunday June 21, 2009 in Shanghai, China.

TLC: Jon & Kate announcing a major decision

NEW YORK (AP)—The TLC network says its biggest stars, Jon and Kate Gosselin, will announce a major decision on their reality show, "Jon & Kate Plus 8."

TLC isn't commenting on what the news will be from these parents of 8-year-old twins and 5-year-old sextuplets. But viewers who have witnessed the Gosselins' marriage coming unraveled are clearly welcome to draw their own conclusions leading up to Monday's episode. And to show up in droves to see it. The show is scheduled to air at 9 p.m. EDT.

In a promotional video posted by TLC hyping the special one-hour edition, Kate Gosselin says, "Recently, we've made some life-changing decisions ... ones that we hope will bring each of us some peace."

Peace seems to have been in short supply for the Gosselins of late. Splashed across Web sites and magazine covers in recent weeks are accounts of infidelity by both spouses—Jon with a 23-year-old schoolteacher and Kate with her bodyguard—accusations both of them deny.

AP

In this file publicity image released by TLC, reality TV stars, Jon Gosselin, left, and his wife Kate Gosselin, from the TLC series, "Jon & Kate Plus 8," are shown.

Meanwhile, their on-screen relationship has been arms-length at best.

"Very swiftly we turned into two different people," Kate said on the fifth-season premiere last month, which attracted nearly 10 million viewers. Subsequent episodes have had less than half that viewership.

She described how she has grown apart from her husband of 10 years, saying, "it's just hard."

Adding to the strain, Pennsylvania's Labor Department has opened an investigation into whether the show's production is complying with state child labor laws. TLC has said it "fully complies" with state laws and regulations.

Originally envisioned as a series chronicling the challenges of raising a supersize family, "Jon & Kate" has become more of a show that raised the question: Can this marriage be saved?

Now TLC is teasing viewers into wondering if the answer could be "no."

Then, after Monday, the question for "Jon & Kate" could be: How can the network's most popular series be saved?

Message of Appreciation

We, the family of

†*Jorge Mata Manalili and*
†*Michiyo Evangelina Nakanishi Manalili*

would like to extend our profound and sincerest gratitude to all of our families and friends for your love and support of comfort. We are especially grateful for your thoughtful prayers and your presence in the Memorial Mass to celebrate the new life of our PA with our Almighty God.
We have been lifted by the comfort of your sympathy in our most difficult moment in the passing of our beloved

†*Jorge Mata Manalili*

and as we remember
the 2nd Death Anniversary of our beloved

†*Michiyo Evangelina Nakanishi Manalili.*

Thank you, Si Yuus Maase, Maraming Salamat Po, Domo Arigato

Agnes M. & Beda Malazarte and families
Marietta M. & Mario Macadaeg and families
Robert H. & Maricel Manalili and families
Edward H. Manalili & Lily DLG. Aldan and families
Teresa M. & Leo T. Duenas and families

Bullock's 'Proposal' woos date crowds with $34.1M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Movie audiences accepted a proposal from Sandra Bullock and Ryan Reynolds, who scored the summer's first big romantic comedy hit.

Bullock and Reynolds' "The Proposal" took in $34.1 million to open as the weekend's No. 1 movie, according to studio estimates Sunday. The Disney flick delivered the biggest opening ever for Bullock, nearly double that of her previous best of $17.6 million for the 2007 paranormal thriller "Premonition."

Bullock stars as a ruthless publishing executive who coerces her put-upon assistant (Reynolds) into a fake marriage so she can avoid deportation back to her native Canada.

"I think the market was ready for a really fun, broad romantic comedy," said Mark Zoradi, president of Disney's motion-picture group.

AP

In this film publicity image released by Touchstone Pictures, Ryan Reynolds, center right, and Sandra Bullock, are shown in a scene from, "The Proposal."

"The Proposal" took over the top spot from the Warner Bros. bachelor-party comedy "The Hangover," which slipped to second place with $26.9 million. A surprise smash hit, "The Hangover" raised its total to $152.9 million.

Disney's animated adventure "Up" was No. 3 with $21.3 million, lifting its total to $224.1 million and following Paramount's "Star Trek" as the second movie of 2009 to cross the $200 million mark.

Debuting in the fourth spot with $20.2 million was Sony's caveman comedy "Year One," starring Jack Black and Michael Cera as Neanderthals on a road trip after they are banished from their village.

It was summer's second big-name comedy set in prehistoric times to take a back seat to a wedding-themed romp. Will Ferrell's "Land of the Lost" opened at No. 3 in early June, the same weekend "The Hangover" pulled off a No. 1 upset.

"June is officially comedy month at the theaters. Comedy is really ruling things," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com.

Woody Allen's latest comedy, "Whatever Works," had a strong start in limited release, hauling in $280,720 in nine theaters for an average of $31,191 a cinema. That compares to an average of $11,163 in 3,056 theaters for "The Proposal" and $6,684 in 3,022 cinemas for "Year One."

1. "**The Proposal**," $34.1 million.
2. "**The Hangover**," $26.9 million.
3. "**Up**," $21.3 million.
3. "**Year One**," $20.2 million.
5. "**The Taking of Pelham 1 2 3**," $11.3 million.
6. "**Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian**," $7.3 million.
7. "**Star Trek**," $4.7 million.
8. "**Land of the Lost**," $4 million.
9. "**Imagine That**," $3.1 million
10. "**Terminator Salvation**," $3.07 million.

Released by Sony Pictures Classics, "Whatever Works" stars Larry David as a misanthropic New Yorker who forges unlikely relationships with a conservative Southern family (Evan Rachel Wood, Patricia Clarkson and Ed Begley Jr.).

While some of June's comedies performed well, the month generally has been a downer for Hollywood, which tore through the first part of the year with a record box-office pace.

Revenues this weekend were up slightly compared to the same period a year ago, but that followed three straight weekends of declining box-office receipts.

For the year, revenue remains up a solid 10 percent, though summer ticket sales are dead even with last year's, Dergarabedian said.

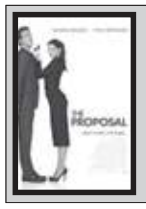
That should turn around this coming weekend with the debut of the blockbuster sequel "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen," which industry analysts say could deliver the year's first $100 million opening.

Paramount's "Transformers" sequel got off to a big start in Great Britain and Japan, where it opened this weekend in advance of its U.S. debut Wednesday, pulling in $14.1 million in Britain and $5.8 million in Japan.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

HOLLYWOOD THEATERS
Don't just go to the movies, GO HOLLYWOOD!
Located near Price Costco in San Jose Saipan MP • 234-9000
POWER 99 FM SAIPAN, CNMI
$5.50 Bargain Matinees - All Shows Before 6PM
$5.50 All Day Admission For Seniors
$4.50 All Day Admission For Kids (ages 3-11)
$5.50 Student Admission with Valid I.D.
$5.50 Military with Valid I.D.
TUESDAY BARGAIN $5.50 ALL SHOWS ALL DAY/NIGHT (EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS AND RESTRICTED FEATURES)
RESERVE TICKETS ONLINE AT www.gohollywood.com
dts DOLBY DIGITAL STADIUM SEATING WITH HIGH-BACK LOVESEATS
For Friday, June 19 through Tuesday, June 23 only!
OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK
★ ★ ★ NOW SHOWING ★ ★ ★

Year One
Friday 1:10 4:15 7:30 9:45
Saturday 1:10 4:15 7:30 9:45
Sun thru Tue 1:10 4:15 7:30
Jack Black, Michael Cera
Prehistoric Fantasy, Comedy • Rated PG-13
Synopsis
Jack Black and Michael Cera headline Harold Ramis' Stone Age comedy about a pair of lazy hunter-gatherers who embark on a wild journey through the ancient world after being banished from their primitive village. Oliver Platt, David Cross, Christopher Mintz-Plasse, and Vinnie Jones co-star.



The Proposal
Friday 1:15 4:10 7:15 9:40
Saturday 1:15 4:10 7:15 9:40
Sun thru Tue 1:15 4:10 7:15
Sandra Bullock, Ryan Reynolds
Romantic Comedy • Rated PG-13
Synopsis
Sandra Bullock stars in the romantic comedy The Proposal, as a Canadian immigrant who creates a demanding and difficult work environment for her subordinates at the office. When the news arrives that she's about to be deported to the Great White North, she rushes into a marriage of convenience with her young assistant (played by Ryan Reynolds) to prevent such a catastrophe from occurring. 27 Dresses' Anne Fletcher directs from a script by Peter Chiarelli for Touchstone Pictures.
★ ★ ★

Imagine That
Friday 1:30 4:25 7:20 9:55
Saturday 1:30 4:25 7:20 9:55
Sun thru Tue 1:30 4:25 7:20
Eddie Murphy, Yara Shahidi
Family-Oriented Comedy • Rated PG
Synopsis
A powerful financial executive whose career was sent spiraling down the drain due to sudden lack of confidence finds the answers to his inexplicable setback in an imaginary world dreamt up by his young daughter in a fantasy comedy starring Eddie Murphy and co-scripted by Ed Solomon and Chris Matheson (the writing duo behind Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure and Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey).

Taking of Pelham 123
Friday 1:20 4:20 7:05 9:50
Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:05 9:50
Sun thru Tue 1:20 4:20 7:05
Denzel Washington, John Travolta
Thriller • Rated R

Up
Friday 1:05 4:05 7:10 9:35
Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:10 9:35
Sun thru Tue 1:05 4:05 7:10
Ed Asner, Jordan Nagai
Comedy, Adventure, Family • Rated PG

The Hangover
Friday 1:25 4:30 7:25 9:30
Saturday 1:25 4:30 7:25 9:30
Sun thru Tue 1:25 4:30 7:25
Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms
Comedy • Rated R

Night at the Museum 2
Friday 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00
Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00
Sun thru Tue 1:00 4:00 7:00
Den Stiller, Amy Adams
Comedy, Sequel • Rated PG
● NO PASSES ■ NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE • R-RATED FILMS REQUIRE PHOTO I.D.
www.gohollywood.com

'American Idol' returns to Southern talent-magnet

ATLANTA (AP)—When "American Idol" searches for talent, the hit TV show certainly doesn't have a problem finding any in Atlanta.

"What's the difference between here, Los Angeles and Kansas City? It's just in Atlanta, people know how to sing down here," said show producer Patrick Lynn. "They love it. They have attitude. They do what we ask. That's the greatness of this city."

More than 9,200 show hopefuls from across the South auditioned for the show's ninth season Thursday, showing up in mohawks, short skirts and even a guitar costume at the Georgia Dome. The show's host and the Idol judges didn't attend but are expected to be in Atlanta in August. An Idol official declined to comment on whether Paula Abdul might make an appearance. Her contract, which ended after the eighth season, has not been renewed.

"It was nerve-racking," said 16-year-old Drake, a resident of Florence, S.C., who didn't offer his last name. The teen, with a guitar strapped to his back, pumped his fist after qualifying for the next round. He was told by the judges that he has a great smile and fluid body gestures, but needs to make more eye contact.

Producers say they keep coming back to Atlanta because of the quality talent. Auditions have been in Atlanta five times—second most behind New York.

Some of the finalists that have come from Atlanta auditions are Tamyra Gray, Clay Aiken, Amanda Overmyer and Fantasia Barrino.

When searching for talent, producer Patrick Lynn calls Atlanta a "main hub." He says so many quality performers showed up to audition in Atlanta that the show decided to add another opportunity for people in Orlando, Fla.

Lynn feels Gray, a first-season contestant who auditioned in Atlanta, set the bar on how to perform in front of judges.

"When she sang we said to ourselves, 'Oh, that's what we're looking for,'" the producer said. "It was apparent."

Francis Reed of Concord, N.C., said she thinks she can add to the list of talent found in the South.

Album with Lambert tunes this summer

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Adam Lambert says an album of tunes he recorded before "American Idol" won't be anything like what he's planning now.

Songs recorded by Lambert before his rise on the popular Fox singing competition are slated to be released this summer on the album "On with the Show" from Hi Fi Recordings and Wilshire Records, beginning with the single "Want."

Lambert

John Hecker, CEO of Hi Fi Recordings, said Friday that the tracks were recorded in 2007 and 2008.

"We were presented with a business opportunity," said Hecker. "We accepted because Wilshire Records had a long working relationship with Adam, and it resulted in excellent music that they had the rights to. The music has an audience, and it deserves to be heard."

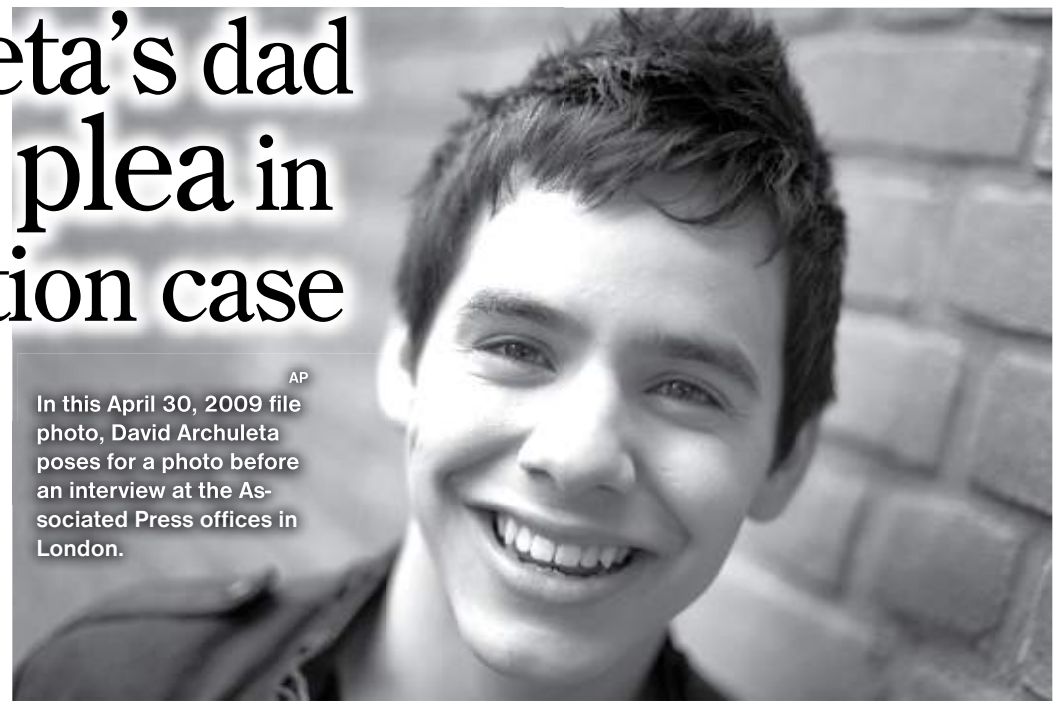
Hecker said Wilshire Records approached Hi Fi Recordings about releasing the material earlier this year when Lambert was gaining success on the show. He said the album will feature 11 or 12 songs, many of which were co-written by Lambert.

He described "On with the Show" as a "complete album" that would include mid- and up-tempo songs, ballads and rock tunes.

Lambert inked a record deal with 19 Entertainment and RCA Recordings earlier this month after losing to Kris Allen on the finale. The 27-year-old rocker will work on that album while on the road with the show's finalists for the "Idols Live Tour," which starts July 5 in Portland, Ore. The untitled album from 19 and RCA is expected for release in the fall.

"The work I did back then in no way reflects the music I am currently in the studio working on," Lambert said in a statement Friday.

Archuleta's dad enters plea in prostitution case



AP

In this April 30, 2009 file photo, David Archuleta poses for a photo before an interview at the Associated Press offices in London.

MIDVALE, Utah (AP)—The father of last year's "American Idol" runner-up David Archuleta (ar-choo-LET'-ah) has pleaded no contest to patronizing a prostitute in a Salt Lake City suburb.

If the 47-year-old James Jeffrey Archuleta avoids repeating the crime by the end of this month, the charge will be removed from his record.

Midvale police Sgt. John Salazar says Archuleta was cited Jan. 14 at a massage parlor. Officers were investigating a complaint from a neighboring doctor's office about scantily clad women at the business.

Court records show Archuleta, who goes by Jeff, pleaded no contest on Jan. 30. He also paid a $582 fine and completed a counseling class.

His attorney, Erik Bauer, did not immediately return a call for comment on Thursday.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Quaids settle with hospital over overdose claim

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Documents show actor Dennis Quaid and his wife have agreed to a $500,000 settlement with a hospital that sickened his newborn twins with an overdose of blood thinner. A petition filed in Los Angeles Superior Court in May shows the settlement will be divided evenly between the twins, Zoe Grace and Thomas Boone. Cedars-Sinai Medical Center has also agreed to provide free medical care for any issues arising from the Heparin overdose in November 2007. The drug can be fatal to infants, but the Quaids and the hospital aren't aware of any lingering health issues with the twins. A hospital spokeswoman says she did not have any information beyond what's in the public record. The settlement was first reported Friday by celebrity gossip site TMZ.

Bradley Whitford and Jane Kaczmarek are divorcing

LOS ANGELES (AP)—After over 16 years of marriage, actors Bradley Whitford and Jane Kaczmarek (KAZ'-mehr-IKH) are divorcing. Whitford's publicist, Melissa Kates, says the "The West Wing" actor and "Malcolm in the Middle" actress are divorcing. The couple were married in August 1992 and have three children. Kaczmarek currently stars as a judge on TNT's "Raising the Bar." Whitford starred in a Broadway revival of "Boeing-Boeing" last year.

Rycroft gets 'Good Morning America' summer gig

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Melissa Rycroft is becoming ABC's go-to performer. Rycroft will add "Good Morning America" to her network credits, which already include "The Bachelor" and "Dancing With the Stars." According to a person with knowledge of the deal, Rycroft will make eight appearances as a "Good Morning America" contributor. She will do fun, lighthearted pieces beginning next week, and she'll also travel for the show, the person said Thursday. The person, who was not authorized to discuss the hiring, asked not to be identified. Rycroft's experience on "The Bachelor" ended badly when she was jilted by Jason Mesnick, but she ended up a finalist on "Dancing With the Stars." Rycroft, a 26-year-old sales rep from Dallas, dropped a coy posting Wednesday on Twitter, asking, "Guess who just got a job with Good Morning America???"

US soprano, Ukrainian pianist win $50K

LOS ANGELES (AP)—An American soprano singer and a Ukrainian pianist have won top honors at a competition that combines elements of "American Idol" and classical music. Leah Crocetto, a 29-year-old first-year fellow with the San Francisco opera, won the $50,000 first prize in the vocal portion of the third annual Jose Iturbi International Music Competition at the University of California, Los Angeles. She also received two separate $3,000 prizes, including the people's choice award for the weeklong competition whose $252,000 in prizes were announced during the weekend. Dmitri Levkovich, a 29-year-old pianist from Ukraine, won the $50,000 first prize in the piano competition. He also won a separate $3,000 award known as the Spanish prize. The competition is sponsored by the Jose Iturbi Foundation, named for the renowned concert pianist who appeared in several MGM musicals in the 1940s. It is dedicated to preserving Iturbi's legacy and to fulfilling his desire to bring emerging classical pianists and vocalists to the public's attention.

Kelly Preston takes first role since son's death

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kelly Preston is returning to work after the death of her teenage son in January.

Preston

Disney says Preston will co-star in its coming-of-age drama "The Last Song," which began filming this week in Savannah, Georgia. The 46-year-old actress plays the mother of Miley Cyrus' character, a rebellious teen forced to spend the summer with her estranged father, played by Greg Kinnear.

Preston and husband John Travolta have kept low profiles since their 16-year-old son, Jett Travolta, died following a seizure in January. John Travolta did not participate in the promotion for his latest film, "The Taking of Pelham 1 2 3."

Preston and Travolta can next be seen on screen in the November release "Old Dogs" with Robin Williams and Matt Dillon.

Yeoh says she'll star in John Woo kung fu movie

SHANGHAI (AP)—Former Bond girl Michelle Yeoh said Sunday that she will star in an upcoming kung fu movie directed by John Woo, adding that she's not avoiding action movies despite a recent break from the genre.

The "Tomorrow Never Dies" and "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" actress told a press conference at the 12th Shanghai International Film Festival that the Chinese-language film will start shooting in China in September.

She said Woo will share directing duties on the film—tentatively called "The Sword and the Martial Arts World"—with Taiwanese filmmaker Su Chao-pin, who directed the horror film "Silk."

She declined to give further details.

Yeoh is a former beauty queen who first made her name as an action star in Hong Kong. Her recent roles in "Memoirs of a Geisha" (2005) and "Far North" (2007) have veered toward drama, but the 46-year-old actress said she still feels fit enough to handle action.

"I have felt physically stronger the past few years. I don't let age limit me," Yeoh said, adding she chose her recent projects because she enjoyed the stories—not because they were less physically taxing.

AP

Malaysian actress Michelle Yeoh walks on the red carpet prior to the closing ceremony of the 12th Shanghai International Film Festival at Shanghai Grand Theater Sunday June 21, 2009 in Shanghai. China.

The film with Yeoh is Woo's first new project since his $80 million two-part historical epic "Red Cliff." The Hong Kong native was supposed to next direct "1949"—an epic romance set against the Chinese civil war in that year—but the project fell through because of a dispute with its Taiwanese investors.

Parents of 'problem' children share mom's secret shame

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: Please print this for "Ashamed in California" (March 28), who feels tremendous guilt for "not loving" her hard-to-manage son. I'm a psychotherapist and the mother of two boys, one of whom is "difficult."

The reason "Ashamed" hasn't heard other moms admit to having negative feelings toward their child is they, too, feel shame. Like her, they have accepted the idea that mothers are supposed to be perfect and feel positive toward their children all the time, even if they're behaving badly.

In my clinical practice, ALL the mothers admit to not liking their kids at times. Advising "Ashamed" to have her son evaluated for a possible disorder was good advice. But if she does and there is no diagnosis, her son could simply be a headstrong child. (They usually grow up to be likable, responsible adults, by the way.)

Her misery can be alleviated by understanding that she's not a bad parent for having totally normal feelings. Love for a child is constant. LIKING can vary from minute to minute, depending on how the child is acting.

PSYCHOTHERAPIST IN S.C.

DEAR PSYCHOTHERAPIST: Thank you for sharing your insight. Many readers were eager to share their personal experiences of dealing with a difficult child and the range of emotions that goes along with it. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I felt the same way! I loved my oldest son, but I wasn't "in love" with him as I was the other two. He was spinning out of control, constantly whining, aggressive toward his siblings, and unpleasant to be around even on a good day.

Eventually we discovered he has celiac disease (intolerance to gluten, causing a host of physical and behavior problems due to malnutrition). Once the fog cleared, we were able to see the wonderful boy he really was. For the first time in three years, I now feel love for him instead of a sense of obligation.

ENLIGHTENED IN MINNESOTA

DEAR ABBY: I tried many things to change my attitude toward my difficult child. As a last resort two months ago, we went to his pediatrician. After completing a physical and some paperwork, he diagnosed my son with Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD) as well as ADHD. He is now taking medication, and we have begun family counseling. My shame and anger dissolved as I began to understand the reasons behind his behavior and learn specific ways to deal with it.

UNDERSTANDS HER PAIN IN OHIO

DEAR ABBY: The best advice I ever received for coping with my contrary daughter was from a neighbor who had a surly girl of her own. She made a conscientious effort to be more demonstrative to her daughter, hug her more and hold on a little tighter to show her how valued she was.

I tried it with my daughter, going out of my way several times a day to express my love for her. It was awkward at first, but I persevered. I committed myself to loving that unlovable being, but slowly and surely it paid off. At first, she would lean away, but eventually she would ask me to hold on "just one more minute."

I also had to let go of the fantasy of who my child would be —someone who would enjoy the things I enjoyed with my mom. We weren't going to cook together, visit museums or learn to sew. I had to meet her where she was. It was the challenge of my life.

My daughter is 24 now and on her own. Her life is not what I would have hoped or expected, but that's OK. We share a real and loving relationship, talk every day and I know I'm her touchstone for love and acceptance. I can't imagine my life without her.

ANOTHER MOM IN CALIFORNIA

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

WHAT ARE YOU DOING DOWN HERE AGAIN? DIDN'T I JUST SEND YOU TO CLEAN YOUR ROOM?!
TWISTED FIEND! NO FOUR WALLS CAN HOLD STUPENDOUS MAN! YOU'VE BEEN FOILED AGAIN, EVIL MOM-LADY! HA HA HA!
OH YEAH?
GREAT ZOK! SHE'S FIXED HER MIND-SCRAMBLING EYEBALL RAY ON ME! I'M SUDDENLY FILLED WITH THE DESIRE TO GO BACK UPSTAIRS AND DO HER NEFARIOUS BIDDING!
GLAD TO HEAR IT.
© 1989 Universal Press Syndicate
6/23

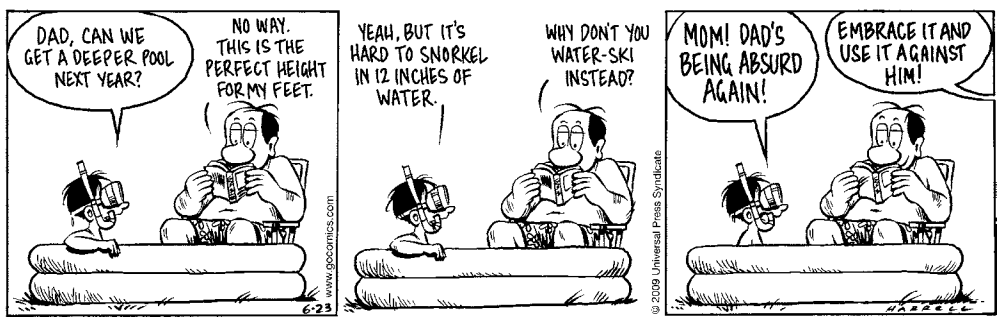
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

ALMOST EVERYTHING IS YOUR FAULT!
THAT'S NOT TRUE
EVERYTHING IS MY FAULT!
© 2009 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
www.garfield.com
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
JIM DAVIS 6-23

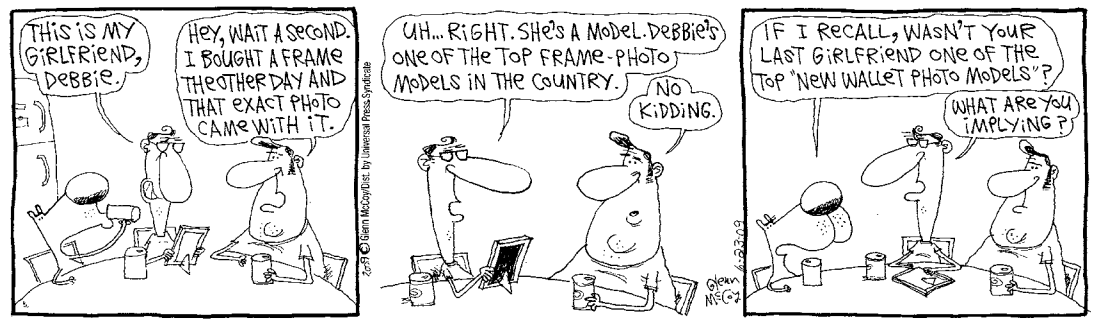
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


DAD, CAN WE GET A DEEPER POOL NEXT YEAR?
NO WAY. THIS IS THE PERFECT HEIGHT FOR MY FEET.
YEAH, BUT IT'S HARD TO SNORKEL IN 12 INCHES OF WATER.
WHY DON'T YOU WATER-SKI INSTEAD?
MOM! DAD'S BEING ABSURD AGAIN!
EMBRACE IT AND USE IT AGAINST HIM!
www.gocomics.com
© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate
6-23

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


THIS IS MY GIRLFRIEND, DEBBIE.
HEY, WAIT A SECOND. I BOUGHT A FRAME THE OTHER DAY AND THAT EXACT PHOTO CAME WITH IT.
UH... RIGHT. SHE'S A MODEL. DEBBIE'S ONE OF THE TOP FRAME-PHOTO MODELS IN THE COUNTRY.
NO KIDDING.
IF I RECALL, WASN'T YOUR LAST GIRLFRIEND ONE OF THE TOP "NEW WALLET PHOTO MODELS"?
WHAT ARE YOU IMPLYING?
© Glenn McCoy/dist. by Universal Press Syndicate
6-23-09

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

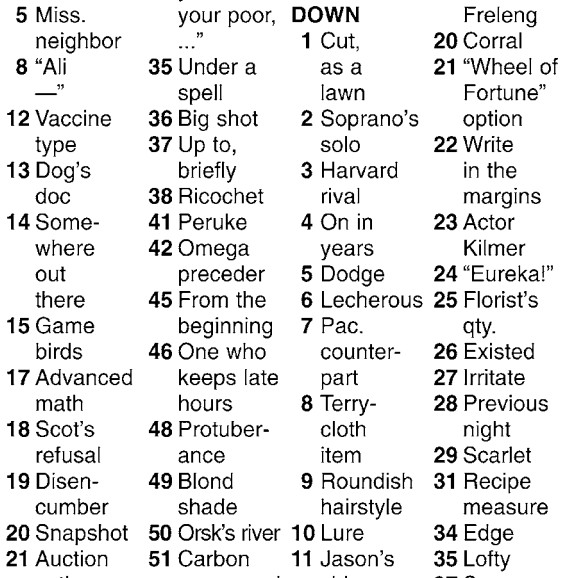
ACROSS
1 BLT enhancer
5 Miss. neighbor
8 "Ali —"
12 Vaccine type
13 Dog's doc
14 Somewhere out there
15 Game birds
17 Advanced math
18 Scot's refusal
19 Disencumber
20 Snapshot
21 Auction action
22 Lustrous black
23 Liechtenstein's capital
26 Persuaded
30 Sailor's greeting
31 Heathcliff, e.g.
32 "— Only Just Begun"
33 She wrote "Give me your tired, your poor, ..."
35 Under a spell
36 Big shot
37 Up to, briefly
38 Ricochet
41 Peruke
42 Omega preceder
45 From the beginning
46 One who keeps late hours
48 Protuberance
49 Blond shade
50 Orsk's river
51 Carbon compound
52 Wager
53 Pleads

DOWN
1 Cut, as a lawn
2 Soprano's solo
3 Harvard rival
4 On in years
5 Dodge
6 Lecherous
7 Pac. counterpart
8 Terry-cloth item
9 Roundish hairstyle
10 Lure
11 Jason's ship
16 Looney Tunes animator Freleng
20 Corral
21 "Wheel of Fortune" option
22 Write in the margins
23 Actor Kilmer
24 "Eureka!"
25 Florist's qty.
26 Existed
27 Irritate
28 Previous night
29 Scarlet
31 Recipe measure
34 Edge
35 Lofty
37 Snug
38 Walking stick
39 In due time
40 Start over
41 Sagacious
42 Skin opening
43 Booty
44 Troubles
46 Apprehend
47 Three-man vessel?

Solution time: 21 mins.

B	B	C			R	E	X		T	R	E	E
A	L	I	T		A	T	E		A	U	L	D
R	A	T	E		G	A	B		M	E	M	O
T	H	Y	M	E		L	E	A	P			
			P	E	A		C	L	A	S	P	S
G	A	Z	E	L	L	E		I	F	N	O	T
I	K	E	A		A	W	E		L	O	K	I
N	I	T	R	O		E	M	P	O	W	E	R
S	N	A	I	L	S		U	A	R			
			Z	E	A	L		L	I	S	T	S
S	H	O	O		L	I	B		D	A	H	L
P	A	W	N		V	E	E		A	S	E	A
A	N	N	A		O	D	D			H	O	W

Yesterday's answer 6-23



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason Mraz, 32; Selma Blair, 37; Eriq La Salle, 46; Frances McDormand, 52

Happy Birthday: You will have to do a lot of negotiating this year if you want things to fall into place. It's important that you are responsible and on top of everything. There is lots to learn from someone you know has always been a pioneer. Keep a close watch and you will avoid making the same mistakes. Your numbers are 11, 13, 16, 23, 26, 37, 44

ARIES *(March 21-April 19)*: Take heed of what's being said or you will be called insensitive. You may feel like getting away from it all but if you walk away from a situation that needs to be dealt with, you could give up the right to voice an opinion in the future. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20)*: Take the time to visit a destination that can offer you insight into what you want to do. Knowing your options will ease the stress of making a choice that is likely to affect your relationship with someone important. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20)*: If your emotions are getting involved in your job, you will have trouble being productive. Separate your feelings from the task at hand or you will leave the wrong impression regarding your talent and your ability to handle responsibilities. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22)*: You'll be emotional regarding personal matters but, if you can look beyond, you'll discover an opportunity to turn things around. Don't shut out any chance that might lead to a better position. Look forward not back. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22)*: Don't let love interfere with what you need to get done. Now is the time to take control, not let someone else take over. A situation involving a friend, relative or neighbor will probably leave you with additional responsibilities. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)*: You can make some interesting changes at home that will help you feel better. Love is on the rise and the time is right to pursue someone you want to spend more time with. Common interests will bring you closer together. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)*: You may fall short if you promise too much. Let others come to you and you can control the outcome of a situation you face. Don't be fooled by a plan that someone is trying to entice you to buy into. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)*: You can drive a hard bargain and win. Trust in yourself and your talent. A solid partnership that offers monetary help can be the refuge you need to continue an amazing project you've been working on for a long time. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)*: Don't be fooled by someone trying to take your money from you. An unusual set of circumstances at home will demand drastic measures. You may have to take a business trip to ensure you don't lose out on something you've worked hard to build. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)*: Focus on health, wealth and domestic situations that could upset your world. There is money to be made through property or other investments. Don't give in to bribery. 3 stars

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)*: Hard work, education and dedication will be required if you want to get ahead. Don't be too quick to give away what you've got. It's probably worth more if you hold tight. The less said, the better. 3 stars

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20)*: Take in all the recent events and information you've been deluged with. Once you have a better understanding of your position, you will be able to make the best choice for you. The effect on your home and family should be a deciding factor. 5 stars

Birthday Baby: You are clever and entertaining. You are strong, steadfast and caring and you stand for justice and honesty.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

8			5	6		7		
	2			7				
			4		1			9
2		4	7			3		
1	3						8	6
		8			4	2		1
3			8		5			
				4			6	
		1		9	6			2

Difficulty Level ★★ 6/23

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Monday's SUDOKU Answer

7	2	4	1	6	5	8	9	3
9	5	6	8	3	4	7	1	2
8	3	1	9	7	2	5	4	6
1	8	7	2	9	3	4	6	5
3	6	9	5	4	8	2	7	1
2	4	5	6	1	7	9	3	8
5	7	3	4	8	6	1	2	9
4	1	2	3	5	9	6	8	7
6	9	8	7	2	1	3	5	4

Difficulty Level ★ 6/22

©2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SPECIALIZED DICTIONARIES **Solution: 8 letters**

M	S	Y	B	I	O	L	O	G	Y	Y	D	U	T	S
D	A	T	M	H	Y	P	O	N	Y	M	Y	L	H	C
G	I	T	A	Y	O	N	L	I	N	E	A	C	E	R
L	N	C	H	N	N	P	H	N	O	C	U	D	S	A
O	T	I	T	E	D	O	N	I	O	B	R	E	A	B
S	E	Y	M	I	M	A	R	F	R	O	E	R	U	B
S	R	R	S	Y	O	A	R	E	W	O	F	U	R	L
A	N	O	P	M	H	N	T	D	M	K	E	T	U	E
R	A	G	E	L	A	R	A	I	(E)	S	R	A	S	M
Y	T	E	L	A	O	E	E	R	C	(P)	T	R	N	Y
D	I	T	L	W	H	I	R	C	Y	S	(Y)	E	R	N
L	O	A	H	S	Y	I	D	D	I	S	H	(T)	A	O
E	N	C	O	N	C	E	P	T	U	A	L	I	E	N
I	A	L	P	H	A	B	E	T	I	C	A	L	L	Y
F	L	A	C	I	D	E	M	E	A	N	I	N	G	S

© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate www.wonderword.com 6/23

Alphabetically, Biology, Books, Category, Conceptual, Defining, Dictionary, Dreams, Fachwerbuch, Field, Focal, Glossary, Headword, Hyponymy, International, Laws, Learn, Literature, Mathematics, Meaning, Medical, Meronymy, Online, Refer, Rhyming, Scrabble, Spell, Standard, Study, Synonym, Thesaurus, Type, Yiddish

Yesterday's Answer: Password

WONDERWORD offers the "Book of Celebrities," for $5.95 each (US funds only) payable to Universal Press Syndicate plus $3 postage for the first book order, $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to **WONDERWORD**, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 2-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated Bldg. 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Backup generator. Free Wi-Fi. EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

NEED PROPERTIES
We are looking for all kinds of properties, vacant property, commercial building, house, or apartment for long term lease or for sale. Interested owners, you may visit Yuta Office beside Bank of Guam in San Antonio.

WHATZIT Solution:
All creatures great and small

Oceanview & Sunsetview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Dandan Tire Shop
USED TIRE
JOETEN DANDAN
235-7835

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

ELEPHant WILDEbeeST MAMmoth

© 2009 WHATZIT? is a trademark of Paul Sellers Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Find today's solution in this section

Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Sports
Fitial says decision to end Aggreko 'far from certain'
CUC emergency extended anew
'CUC unlikely to meet EPA deadlines'
9 percent drop in foreign investors
Movie Awards
Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper
235- NEWS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

US Open play suspended because of darkness

FARMINGDALE, N.Y. (AP)—Ricky Barnes flashed a smile as big as his six-shot lead.

He was double digits under par, only the fourth player in U.S. Open history to get that low. He had a six-shot lead over his closest rival, while the stars struggled to make up ground. Phil Mickelson was making as many bogeys as birdies. Tiger Woods fell 15 shots behind.

It all changed in a New York minute.

When darkness settled over Bethpage Black as the final round was still young, Barnes was tied for the lead with Lucas Glover. Both of them were at 7-under par, five shots clear of anyone else. Neither has ever faced the nerves of contending in a major.

What once appeared to be a two-man race suddenly had endless possibilities:

■ Mickelson made two long birdie putts on his last three holes for a 69 in the third round, and after pars on the two holes he played in the final round, he was only five shots behind.

■ David Duval, a former British Open champion without a victory in eight years, kept coming back from sluggish starts and found himself very much in the hunt at 2 under with 16 holes to play.

■ Woods finished a frustrating day on the greens with an eight-foot birdie putt on the 489-yard seventh hole, putting him at even par in the tournament for the first time since the 14th hole of the opening round. He was seven shots behind with 11 to play.

Barnes, who finished the third round of this rain-delayed U.S. Open with a one-shot lead at 8-under 202, chopped his way to bogey on the opening hole of the final round to lose his lead. Then he hooked his tee shot into gnarly clumps of the grass along a hillside left of the fairway on No. 2.

When the horn sounded to stop play, he quickly marked his position and walked briskly off the course.

"It's going to be pressure-packed tomorrow," Glover said. "I'll sleep fine. If not, I guess I'll be tired."

Mickelson, determined to bring a fairy-tale finish to a U.S. Open career filled with disappointment, was on the third tee and had plenty of golf left. He has been the runner-up four times in the U.S. Open—three times in New York—and is desperate to bring a silver trophy of cheer home to a wife who is battling breast cancer.

"I'm one good round away," Mickelson said, excited at the possibilities.

Hunter Mahan and Ross Fisher of England were also at 2 under. Former Masters champion Mike Weir was at 1 under.

Woods at least left Bethpage Black in good spirits.

"It was nice to end the day with a birdie on one of the most difficult holes of the week," Woods said.

The USGA felt good enough about the forecast Monday to resume the final round at 9 a.m., leaving enough time for an 18-hole playoff if it comes to that.

It will be the first time a U.S. Open ended in regulation on Monday since Larry Nelson won at Oakmont in 1983.

And if the 2 1/2 hours of golf played in the final round were any indication, it could be as much about survival as a big charge. The third round ended with 11 players under par. When play was suspended, only seven remained.

Barnes looked as though he might blow this major wide open after rolling in a 25-foot eagle putt on No. 4 in the third round to reach 11 under, joining Gil Morgan (1992), Woods (2000) and Jim Furyk (2003) as the only players to reach double digits under par in a U.S. Open. When he reached the 10th tee, he was six shots clear of Glover.

What looked like a breeze turned into a struggle, however.

Barnes hit only three fairways on the back nine, and after steadying himself with a 35-foot birdie putt on the 17th, he failed to save par on the 18th by missing a four-foot putt that never touched the hole. He wound up with a 70 to finish 54 holes at 8-under 202.

Glover rallied behind flawless golf that included three birdies and a 32 on the back nine and also shot 70 to stay one behind.

"I knew it was going to be wet and tough, and I knew my nerves would be tested," Barnes said. "I wouldn't have liked to bogey the last hole and end it that way. But I've got to go back, take my shoes off and think, 'Hey, I shot even par on Saturday with the lead.' If I go out and do the same thing, someone is going to have to really come back low ... to catch me."

The finish might be as unpredictable as the weather that has otherwise made a mess of this U.S. Open.

Mickelson could be the one player to make the misery of slogging through the mud over five days easy to forget. He already is a crowd favorite in New York, and the affection for him has become even more tangible since disclosing that his wife, Amy, has breast cancer.

Lefty made his share of mistakes, as always, but he countered with seven birdies in the third round to give himself a chance. Not even a six-shot deficit bothered him.

"I feel like if I can get a hot round going, I can make up the difference," he said.

For the second straight round, Duval was on the verge of falling away until he picked himself back up. Right when he was about to fall back to par, Duval hit a shot out of trampled rough and around a tree to 10 feet for birdie on the 16th, and he hit a 7-iron to 7 feet on the final hole for another birdie and a 70.

He again started sluggishly in the final round, taking bogey from the rough on No. 1 and having to save par from thick grass short of the green at No. 2. Duval has not won in eight years, and he has not finished in the top 10 since 2002.

Woods made only one mistake in the third round—taking two hacks with the wedge to escape knee-high grass around the 14th green—but more troubling was that he made only three birdies after giving himself so many chances inside 15 feet. He had to settle for a 68 and was nine shots behind. He has never won a tournament trailing by more than eight going into the final round.

"Obviously, it's not totally in my control," Woods said. "Only thing I can control is whether I can play a good one or not."

Most players had a hard time remembering what day it was in this on-again, off-again Open in which no round has been completed on the day it started. There was another 4 1/2-hour delay Sunday morning because of nearly an inch of rain overnight.

Mickelson has a tropical vacation planned with his wife and their three children before her July 1 surgery for breast cancer, although he was in no hurry to get home now. He has been runner-up four times in this major—already tied for the record—and talked earlier this week about Amy leaving him messages to bring home the trophy.

The largest final-round U.S. Open comeback is seven shots in 1960. Mickelson was one closer than that, and he could practically taste it.

"Anything can happen in a U.S. Open," he said.

Tiger Woods walks along the third green during the final round of the U.S. Open Golf Championship at Bethpage State Park's Black Course in Farmingdale, N.Y., Sunday, June 21, 2009.

AP

Yao Ming says Cleveland move 'unknown'

BEIJING (AP)—Rockets center Yao Ming has called a possible move to Cleveland an "unknown" amid rumors that the Cavaliers' new Chinese part owners want to sign him.

In a recent interview with his hometown Shanghai TV station, Yao said he continued to have "much affection" for the Houston Rockets, the team that took him in the first round of the 2002 draft and with whom he has played all six of his NBA seasons.

Yao has not won a championship, but said Houston's drive to the second-round of the playoffs this year had given him hope that the Rockets can contend next season.

Rumors of a possible move to Cleveland have swirled since a group of Chinese investors signed an agreement last month with the Cavaliers to become minority owners. The move is expected to boost the team's popularity and marketing opportunities in China, where Cleveland star LeBron James is very popular.

"This is all an unknown," Yao said in the interview, a transcript of which was posted online Friday.

"I've already been with Houston for such a long time, I still have much affection for this team," he said. "Moreover, this past season we were very successful, and that let me see some hope."

Cleveland has not publicly expressed interest in Yao, who has one guaranteed year left on his contract with Houston, including a player option for the 2010-11 season.

Yao broke his troublesome left foot in Game 3 of the second-round playoff series against the Los Angeles Lakers, the eventual champions.

The lure of a championship remains strong and Yao conceded to feeling jealous of fellow China national team member Sun Yue, who played for the Lakers.

"There's a little bit of envy," Yao said. "If I didn't have feel even some jealousy, then I'm afraid that really would make me a little too much of a slacker."

Thabeet cites shoulder in canceling workout

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—Hasheem Thabeet canceled a pre-draft workout with the Grizzlies on Sunday citing a shoulder injury, but he also had plans to talk to other teams.

"Thabeet was a combination of he's had some shoulder situations and he wanted to talk to some other teams," Grizzlies general manager Chris Wallace said of the 7-foot-3 center out of Connecticut. "It's also what goes on this time of the year with guys showing, not showing, that type of thing. The gamesmanship of the draft."

Memphis officials have already met with Thabeet twice in preparation for Thursday's NBA draft. Wallace said he expects to meet Thabeet later this week, but probably not for a workout.

The draft's top-rated big man, Thabeet averaged 13.6 points, 10.8 rebounds and 4.2 blocks (second in the nation) for the Huskies last season, when he was co-Big East player of the year.

A number of projections have him going to the Grizzlies with the No. 2 pick, others have Memphis taking Spanish point guard Ricky Rubio. The Los Angeles Clippers are expected to take Oklahoma forward Blake Griffin at No. 1.

The debate on Thabeet is that he is not an offensive presence, has only adequate rebounding numbers and may not be strong enough to battle in the post. But there also is the potential for continued improvement. The native of Tanzania did not start playing basketball until he was 15.

Sunday's cancellation does not affect the Grizzlies' consideration of Thabeet, although Wallace didn't reveal his draft plans.

"We go on what they do in their careers. That's the vast majority of your final grade," Wallace said. "The workout has very little to do with it. You're just covering yourself with the workout."

With Thabeet's cancellation, the Grizzlies watched Jordan Hill, the 6-10 forward-center out of Arizona, and Demar DeRozan, a guard-forward from USC, in individual workouts.

Pujols drives in 6, Cardinals beat Royals

KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP)— Albert Pujols finished off a three-day romp in Kansas City with two homers and six RBIs to help the St. Louis Cardinals rout the Royals 12-5 Sunday in win No. 2,500 for manager Tony La Russa.

Pujols made a mockery of Kansas City pitching in his return to the town where he went to high school, hitting three homers and driving in 10 runs in the Cardinals' three-game sweep over their cross-state rivals.

The two-time National League MVP had four hits Sunday and delivered the decisive blow in the Cardinals' eight-run fourth inning, pounding his club record-tying third grand slam of the season. He also had a run-scoring single in the first and added his major league-leading 26th homer in the fifth to put the Cardinals up 12-4.

Pujols matched Stan Musial's team record of nine career slams. His fifth multihomer game this season helped La Russa join Connie Mack (3,831) and John McGraw (2,763) as the only managers with 2,500 victories.

Khalil Greene homered for the third straight game but left in the fourth after being hit on the right knee by a pitch.

Jose Guillen homered for Kansas City, which has allowed 53 runs during a five-game losing streak.

AP

St. Louis Cardinals' Albert Pujols rounds third after hitting a home run in the fifth inning of a baseball game against the Kansas City Royals, Sunday, June 21, 2009, in Kansas City, Mo.

Orioles 2, Phillies 1

At Philadelphia, Brian Roberts had the decisive hit for the second straight game, a tiebreaking single in the eighth inning as Baltimore completed a three-game sweep of Philadelphia.

Roberts hit an RBI single off Cole Hamels (4-3) that made it 2-1 and sent the Orioles to their fifth straight win, matching a season high. Roberts hit a two-run homer with two outs in the ninth off Ryan Madson in a 6-5 win Saturday night.

Red Sox 6, Braves 5

At Boston, Nick Green homered in right field on the first pitch of the bottom of the ninth inning to give Boston a win over Atlanta.

Green connected off Jeff Bennett (2-4), his fourth homer of the season.

Marlins 6, Yankees 5

At Miami, Hanley Ramirez and Cody Ross homered as Florida held off a late rally to beat the struggling New York Yankees after CC Sabathia left early with an injury.

The game was protested by New York manager Joe Girardi because of an eighth-inning mixup with the Marlins lineup.

Tigers 3, Brewers 2

At Detroit, Brandon Inge hit a three-run homer and Justin Verlander pitched into the eighth to help Detroit sweep Milwaukee.

Verlander (8-3), who no-hit the Brewers in his only other start against them, allowed two runs and five hits in 7 2-3 innings. He struck out eight while improving to 8-1 since April 27. Fernando Rodney pitched the ninth for his 14th straight save.

Rays 10, Mets 6

At New York, B.J. Upton homered and matched a career high with four RBIs, and Carl Crawford drove in a pair of runs as Tampa Bay broke out of an offensive slumber with a victory over the New York Mets.

Upton and Evan Longoria each had four hits for the Rays, who won two of three in the first series between these teams since 2001. Gabe Kapler added a pair of RBIs.

White Sox 4, Reds 1

At Cincinnati, Mark Buehrle pitched seven shutout innings, his latest impressive showing against the NL, as Chicago added to its run of success against Cincinnati.

The White Sox are 14-3 against the Reds in interleague play, winning 10 of their last 11. The latest one had a lot to do with Buehrle (7-2), who is usually at his best against NL hitters who don't know him very well.

Blue Jays 9, Nationals 4

At Washington, Toronto avoided the unsavory distinction of becoming the first team to be swept by bottom-dwelling Washington, getting five RBIs from Lyle Overbay and a solid outing by Ricky Romero.

Romero (4-3) allowed two runs over seven innings with a season-high 118 pitches, taking a little of the strain off the Blue Jays' bullpen after extra-inning losses Friday and Saturday. Overbay's 3-for-5 day included a solo homer as Toronto finished 4-2 on a six-game road trip.

Astros 4, Twins 1

At Minneapolis, Wandy Rodriguez pitched seven strong innings for his first win in more than a month to lead Houston over Minnesota.

Rodriguez (6-6), who was 0-4 with a 6.93 ERA in his previous five starts, gave up only Michael Cuddyer's home run through the first six innings. He allowed two hits and three walks with eight strikeouts overall for his first win since May 20 against Milwaukee.

Cubs 6, Indians 2

At Chicago, Randy Wells pitched into the seventh inning for his first major league win, and Geovany Soto homered and Jake Fox drove in three runs to lead Chicago past Cleveland.

Derrek Lee extended his hitting streak to 18 games, tying a career high, and the Cubs cruised behind Wells (1-3) after winning the previous three games in their final at-bat.

Padres 4, Athletics 1

At San Diego, Kevin Correia carried a shutout into the seventh inning and Kevin Kouzmanoff hit a two-run homer, leading San Diego over Oakland.

Correia (4-5) struck out seven and combined with three relievers on a two-hitter. The right-hander retired his first 14 batters before Orlando Cabrera hit a two-out double.

Giants 3, Rangers 2

At San Francisco, Barry Zito carried a no-hit bid into the seventh inning and Randy Winn hit a go-ahead single as San Francisco took advantage of a Texas mistake to complete a series sweep.

Zito (4-7) didn't allow a hit until Andruw Jones' two-run homer with none out in the seventh, a line drive that stayed just fair inside the left-field foul pole.

Mariners 3, Diamondbacks 2

At Seattle, Tony Clark dropped a routine throw to first base, allowing Ronny Cedeno to score the winning run for Seattle with two outs in the ninth inning against Arizona.

Chad Qualls got Franklin Gutierrez to ground slowly toward third where Mark Reynolds charged, fielded cleanly and fired a perfect throw to Clark.

Rockies 5, Pirates 4

At Denver, Clint Barmes homered, drove in two runs and scored two more as surging Colorado completed a sweep of Pittsburgh for its 16th victory in 17 games.

Since having their 11-game winning streak snapped, the Rockies have won five straight. They improved to 18-5 under manager Jim Tracy, who took over when Clint Hurdle was fired.

Dodgers 5, Angels 3

At Anaheim, California, James Loney hit a two-run homer that was upheld by video review and Clayton Kershaw pitched seven shutout innings as the Los Angeles Dodgers took two of three in the Freeway Series against the Angels.

Juan Pierre had a pair of RBI doubles, Casey Blake hit an RBI single and the Dodgers had nine hits off Angels starter John Lackey (2-3).

Recession hasn't sacked Pack, but officials wary

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)—The Green Bay Packers haven't been sacked by the recession despite a rough season on the field and significant financial challenges off it, but officials remain wary of the future.

The NFL's only publicly owned franchise turned a $20.1 million operating profit last year, according to team officials. Taking into account significant investment losses, the Packers still managed $4 million in net income for the fiscal year ending March 31.

That's down $19.4 million from the previous year—but the numbers remain black, not red, and that's more than can be said for many businesses these days.

"We have been able to weather it OK," Packers treasurer Larry Weyers said. "We're still a strong institution and we still have the strength to support football operations and maintain the quality of our football team."

But Weyers added: "It's obviously somewhat concerning whenever your profits dropped off as much as ours did this year."

Future economic challenges have team officials even more concerned. They see player costs rising faster than local revenues, a trend that makes Packers brass likely to join other NFL owners in taking a firm stance against the players' union in upcoming collective bargaining negotiations.

Owners voted to opt out of the existing agreement after the 2010 season, saying the deal is too favorable to players, who currently receive approximately 60 percent of applicable revenues.

Unless a new deal is struck, the league will have no salary cap in 2010—and, in the worst-case scenario, a work stoppage after that.

"It's a real concern that our player costs continue to grow at a rate much higher than our revenue's growing," Packers president and chief executive Mark Murphy said. "It's not sustainable, and it's the reason we opted out of the collective bargaining agreement."

The Packers will issue a full report to shareholders this summer, but team officials offered an overview of the team's finances to The Associated Press and a handful of other media outlets this week.

The Packers couldn't top their big year in 2007-08, when Brett Favre was still setting records in a Packers uniform, the team hosted a pair of playoff games and the economy appeared solid.

But given the subsequent economic downturn, the messy drama of Favre's unretirement saga and subsequent trade to the New York Jets, and a disappointing 6-10 season last year, things could have been worse.

The Packers took in $247.9 million in total revenue, a 3 percent increase over the previous year. That figure was boosted by a 9 percent increase in money from national sources, offsetting a $5 million decrease in local revenue pinned largely on lagging souvenir shop sales.

Expenses were up 4 percent to $227.8 million. That includes $138.7 million in player costs, an increase of almost 11 percent from the previous year.

Rising player costs and sagging local revenue are disturbing trends to Packers officials. Since 2006, Murphy says 80 percent of the Packers' increased revenues have gone to players.

And Murphy says other teams servicing significant debt on new stadiums are in even worse shape.

"I think that's one of the things that we all hope to correct in the current negotiations," Murphy said. "We want to reach an agreement with the players. We want a new agreement that's fair to the players and allows us to grow the game."

The Packers' profit from operations was $20.1 million, down from $21.4 million the previous year. The franchise's net income - including a substantial drop in investment income last year, plus taxes and other considerations - was $4 million, down from $23.4 million the previous year.

The team hasn't had to lay off or furlough any full-time employees, although some part-time workers were let go because of lagging sales in the Lambeau Field souvenir shop.

And while long-term plans to develop retail facilities around Lambeau Field are moving slowly, the Packers have gone forward with plans to renovate their practice field.

SSC holds developmental swim lessons

Saipan Swim Club has started its annual summer developmental swim lessons and is inviting interested individuals to join the club in learning the basic of the sport and life-saving and water safety skills.

The swim lessons has started last Wednesday and will continue until July 31. Lessons are held every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30am to 9:30am at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

"For 35 years Saipan Swim Club has worked hard in preparing the next generation of young swimmers in the CNMI. Saipan Swim Club would be honored to teach your children how to swim both for enjoyment, safety, and for competition. Our developmental program has been very successful in giving children and adults an opportunity to engage in recreational swimming and to advance to more competitive levels if they want to," a media release from SSC stated.

"This summer the Saipan Swim Club is offering the Saipan community the best in what swimming has to give. Under the guidance of coach Mike Villagomez, a former champion swimmer of SSC, a current physical education teacher at Chacha Oceanview Junior High School in Kagman, and a Hall of Fame swimmer who brings vast amounts of experience in teaching the fine art of swimming to the youth of Saipan," the statement added.

The cost to participate in the swim lessons is $10 per day or $20 per week. Those who want to join the sessions for one month will only pay $35.

To register or for more information, contact Villagomez at the Marpi pool, Sam Martinsen at 483-7252, or Evelyn Lapuz at 287-4700. ***(PR)***

BOOMERS

From Page 28

the Boomers recovering from the slow start just in time to foil an opening day shocker.

In their debut, the Boomers trailed in the first half. Against the much physical New Caledonia players, Australia controlled the game from the opening tip before the Francophone cagers rallied in the last two minutes of the game.

"There were a lot of pushing, fighting off screens. Our younger players played against men and they are not used to it. Hopefully, these two close wins will make them realize that what we have here is a tough competition and you have to be prepared physical and mentally to win tough games," Goriss added.

From a 58-50 lead, entering the final two minutes of the match, the Bommers saw their lead cut to three, 57-60, with 54.1 seconds left in the game.

Two backcourt violation from Australia resulted to two free throw makes by Emmanuel Souria-Ouamt and a layup by point guard Stephane Saminadin.

After New Caledonia moved within four, 54-58, Australia got some breathing room when Thomas Daly fed Bradley Simpson for an alley-oop, 60-54.

Souria-Ouamt countered with a triple to threaten anew, 57-60, with less than a minute left in the game. New Caledonia had several chances to move closer or tie the game when Australia missed in its last four trips at the foul line, but the French cagers also muffed triples and inside shots in the ensuing plays.

Two misses from the 15-foot line from Daly gave New Caledonia one final chance to send the game into overtime. However, Daly made up for his earlier booboo when he stole Raymond Weber's inbound pass to Saminadin in the last 1.2 seconds of the match to preserve the win for the Boomers.

Australia now leads the five-team tournament with its 2-0 record, while New Caledonia dropped its debut.

In the women's division, New Zealand had little trouble downing Guam, nailing a 65-point win, 92-27.

New Zealand held Guam to five points in the first period and never looked back from thereon.

Women's

New Zealand 92 – Moore 17, Slatter 14, Kensington 13, Vucinic 11, Gallaher 9, Hunter 6, Caldwell 6, Connell 6, Gillespie 6, Milford 4.

Guam 27 – Anderson 10, Santos 8, Castro 4, Benito 2, Tajalle 2, Pelkey 1.

Scoring by quarters: 26-5, 42-12, 68-18, 92-27.

Men's

Australia 60 – Mullan 11, Daly 10, Bairstow 10, Warbout 8, Hill 5, Wilcher 4, Purser 4, Phillips 4, Simpson 4.

New Caledonia 57 – Tetainanuarii 15, Souria-Ouamt 13, Saminadin 7, R. Weber 6, B. Weber 6, Taufana 4, Mathelon 2, Mana 2.

Scoring by quarters: 22-18, 38-31, 51-42, 60-57.

RABAULIMAN

From Page 28

a check done by CHC and EMS staff revealed no immediate damage from his body down to his legs. He left the gym with a neck brace, but walked out of the hospital the same night with negative results from his X-rays.

CNMI coach Rufino Aguon, in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune*, said Rabauliman was scheduled to undergo another series of tests yesterday and if results remain negative, it is still possible that Rabauliman will continue to play.

Aguon added Rabauliman is an intense player, who will never give up easy points even though the game has already been decided.

New Zealand was leading, 93-56, with 41 seconds left in the fourth quarter, when Rabauliman had the bad fall.

"Our players were thought to play intense game for 40 minutes, no let up. However, sometimes, you also have to be smart so this type of accident can be prevented," Aguon said.

After Rabauliman was moved out of the gym, the game resumed with Miller taking a bonus shot. He missed, but New Zealand still walked away with a big 37-point win.

The CNMI kept New Zealand within striking distance in the first period, as the host trailed only by four, 12-16. The CNMI Men's National even took 4-0 lead with less than two minutes gone by in the first quarter.

But the Kiwis started pulling away in the second period, limiting the CNMI to two points in the first eight minutes of that canto. Rabauliman broke the hosts' silence with a short jumper, but New Zealand was still way ahead, 45-18, with 1:24 left in the first half.

Instead of going for outside shots to open up the defense, CNMI cagers attacked the paint, but were rarely successful, as New Zealand's big men were there to foil the hosts.

New Zealand's tallest player, Duane Bailey, stands 6'4" and the visitors had a couple more six-footers.

Jericho Cruz led the CNMI's losing cause with his 16 points, while Iguel and Rabauliman chipped in 12 and 10 markers, respectively.

Jordan Mills paced New Zealand with 20 points, while six of his teammates also finished in double figures.

In the women's division, the CNMI cagebelles also lost their debut against Guam.

Guam capitalized on an inexperienced CNMI crew to nail a 70-47 victory.

The CNMI Women's Nationals put up a decent showing in the first quarter, trailing by only four, 11-15.

However, the hosts started to collapse offensive and defensively in the second period, allowing Guam to break the game wide open.

Women's

Guam 70 – Benito 25, Castro 12, Santos 11, Anderson 8, Cruz 6, Tajalle 4, Pelkey 4.

CNMI 47 – Camacho 24, Rangamar 12, Guzman 4, Lebria 3, Mesa 2, Diaz 2.

Scoring by quarters: 15-11, 33-17, 52-21, 70-47.

Men's

New Zealand 93 – Mills 20, Miller 14, Aston 12, Green 10, Ashby 10, Joyce-Gay 10, Maiava 10, Nikora 4, Dailey 2.

CNMI 56 – Cruz 16, Iguel 12, Rabauliman 10, Tumaquip 6, Ada 5, Johnson 4, Barcinas 2, Fitial 1.

Scoring by quarters: 22-14, 47-18, 67-41, 93-56.

CROWD

From Page 28

young and fast players, it sort of brought me back down memory lane when I was playing basketball, too during my elementary days," Palacios said.

Palacios, who plays softball, added she went to the gym to support a friend's daughter, who is playing for the CNMI Women's Nationals.

"I know, they are a young team and will be the underdogs in the tournament, but with us here supporting the CNMI team, they will be encouraged to do their best and put up a good show against the favored squads," Palacios said.

Eddie Manalili, who is among the volunteers in the event, also found time to watch the opening ceremony and the games.

"It's great to see young players come here and play. I really enjoyed watching the taller players from Australia and New Zealand. I like the way they move inside and on several occasion run fastbreak plays," Manalili said.

"It was awesome. Someday, I want to learn how they do that and hopefully I can play for CNMI, too, and compete in the same tournament," said Manalili, who played for the MHS Dolphins in last season's MISO junior varsity league.

Manalili and Palacios were among the more than 700 spectators that packed the gym and withstood the heat to watch the opening ceremony and the games.

When the traditional parade of teams started, the home crowd expressed its hospitality and appreciation to the visitors by applauding Australia's delegation. The crowed showed the same reception when Guam, New Caledonia, and New Zealand had their turns.

However, as expected, the biggest applause came when the host and tournament underdogs CNMI Nationals marched onto the court.

After the opening ceremony, more people came in to watch the game between the CNMI Men's Nationals and New Zealand. The host country lost by a big margin, but that did not discourage the home crowd to cheer for every shot made, every defensive stop, and every ball stolen by CNMI cagers.

The biggest cheer from the crowd came when Jericho Cruz, standing 6'0," swatted the ball away from New Zealand's tallest play, Duane Bailey, who is 6'5". Daredevil drives from the diminutive Jomary Tumaquip also drew cheers from the crown.

"Win or lose, the home crowd truly gave the CNMI team the needed boost in their game against New Zealand," said Alexie Zotomayor, one of the spectators.

"Every successful plays made by the CNMI cagers were applauded even though they were trailing in the game. This is the kind of support we have to show to our home team," Palacios added.

FIBA World president Bob Elphinston, FIBA Oceania president Barbara Wheadon, and FIBA Oceania secretary general Steve Smith were among the guests in the opening ceremony.

Also gracing the opening rites were Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, who declared the tournament open, his wife, Josie, Reps. Ray Palacios, Ray Tebuteb, and Ed Salas, Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands president Elias Rangamar, and BANMI secretary general Michael A. White.

L.J. Castro served as emcee, while various cultural groups in the CNMI performed dances to the delight of the crowd.

SUFA

From Page 28

ning, scoring nine runs.

At the bottom of the fifth, Che'lus must make at least two runs to continue the game. Sufa pitcher Henry Reyes walked Che'lus leadoff batter Tito Francisco and the latter was left stranded on first base, as the team's next three trips at bat were unsuccessful. Che'lus' second and fourth batter flied out, while third batter and third baseman Jose Sablan was struck out on empty swings.

In the Kulan Zamu Gear-Balutar tiff, Julian Camacho and Dennis Cabrera hit a one-run single apiece at the bottom of the sixth inning to lift Kulan Zamu to a one-run win.

Camacho and Cabrera's single gave Kulan Zamu a 14-12 lead, going into the top of the seventh. After its leadoff batter flied out, Balutar moved within one, 13-14, on Manny Sablan's single. However, that was the last time Balutar scored, as Leo Bobai and Gloyd Martin both flied out to centerfield, leaving Manny Sablan and Clifton Sillil stranded on first and second base.

In the third game, Pac-Chain needed an extra inning to thwart Calikano. The game ended at 7-all with Calikano rallying with its seven-run top of the seventh. Calakino was without a run in the first six innings, but grabbed the lead, 7-6, before Kuki Pangelinan scored for Pac-Chain at the bottom of the seventh to send the game in extra inning.

Runs from Shine Tenorio, James Fleming, and Pauline Camacho at the bottom of the eighth inning finally gave Pac-Chain the win. Angel Cepeda delivered the winning hit for Pac-Chain, as his single drove Camacho home.

This year's Marianas Cup will be played in five rounds with each round set for every Saturday. At the end of Round 5, teams will move into the playoff round with the number of teams to advance to the playoffs has yet to be decided.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	42	27	.609	–
New York	38	31	.551	4
Toronto	38	33	.535	5
Tampa Bay	37	34	.521	6
Baltimore	32	37	.464	10

Central Division

Detroit	38	31	.551	–
Minnesota	35	36	.493	4
Chicago	33	36	.478	5
Kansas City	29	39	.426	8 1/2
Cleveland	29	42	.408	10

West Division

Texas	37	31	.544	–
Los Angeles	36	31	.537	1/2
Seattle	35	34	.507	2 1/2
Oakland	30	38	.441	7

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	36	31	.537	–
New York	34	33	.507	2
Florida	35	36	.493	3
Atlanta	32	36	.471	4 1/2
Washington	20	47	.299	16

Central Division

St. Louis	39	31	.557	–
Milwaukee	37	32	.536	1 1/2
Chicago	34	31	.523	2 1/2
Cincinnati	34	34	.500	4
Houston	32	35	.478	5 1/2
Pittsburgh	31	38	.449	7 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	46	24	.657	–
San Francisco	37	31	.544	8
Colorado	36	33	.522	9 1/2
San Diego	30	38	.441	15
Arizona	29	41	.414	17

Yesterday's Games

Detroit 3, Milwaukee 2
Chicago White Sox 4, Cincinnati 1
Tampa Bay 10, N.Y. Mets 6
Boston 6, Atlanta 5
Baltimore 2, Philadelphia 1
Toronto 9, Washington 4
Houston 4, Minnesota 1
St. Louis 12, Kansas City 5
Chicago Cubs 6, Cleveland 2
Colorado 5, Pittsburgh 4
San Diego 4, Oakland 1
San Francisco 3, Texas 2
Seattle 3, Arizona 2
Florida 6, N.Y. Yankees 5
L.A. Dodgers 5, L.A. Angels 3

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Inaugural International Flipper Open Water Race

Right, swimmers hold their fins as they dash to the water.

Far right, Rezne Wong shows off his $300 prize and trophy after coming in first in the race.

Photos By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Far left, participants, made up mostly of Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan members, wait for the go-signal in the start of the Inaugural International Flipper Open Water Race held last Saturday in the waters around Managaha Island.

Left, Japanese women in their 60s and 70s smile as they prepare for the swim.

Visiting Japanese competitors put on their fins.

Female winner Sachiko Suzuki holds her fins up at the finish line.

Angel Marie Tan (second overall in the female division with 24.37) and Kosei Toda (14th overall in the male with a time of 24.36) arrive side by side at the finish line.

Team Tsunami celebrate after completing the race.

Tsunami Saipan teammates, from left, Shin Kimura, Rezne Wong, and Kensuke Kimura pose after finishing in the Top 5 of the race.

Female winner Sachiko Suzuki gets her $300 prize.

SSC holds developmental swim lessons

Saipan Swim Club has started its annual summer developmental swim lessons and is inviting interested individuals to join the club in learning the basic of the sport and life-saving and water safety skills.

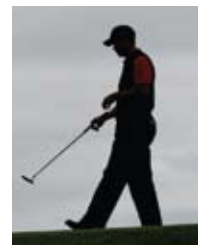
26

Saipan Tribune
Sports

US Open play suspended because of darkness

Ricky Barnes flashed a smile as big as his six-shot lead. He was double digits under par, only the fourth player in U.S. Open history to get that low.

24



Boomers slip past New Caledonia

Australia's Thomas Daly, right, drives and draws a foul from New Caledonia's Laurent Bernier during their game in the 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

New Zealand whips Guam in women's division

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Australia and New Caledonia provided the most exciting game so far in the 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament after the Boomers pulled off a 60-57 victory over the French colony yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

"It was another tough game, tough win. I hope this does not turn into a habit," Australia head coach Paul Goriss told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview after the game.

Goriss' wards came off a 57-42 win over Guam in Day 1 of the tournament last Sunday with

See BOOMERS on Page 26

Crowd support pours in at FIBA *Oceania opening*

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Inatuas Dance Troupe performs in the opening ceremony of the 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The opening ceremony and the opening games in the 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium Sunday night brought in basketball and non-basketball fans alike, who hoped to catch a glimpse of tall players from visiting teams and cheer for the CNMI Nationals.

"I saw these tall women in a store and at first thought they are just regular visitors. When I found out they are playing in a tournament here, I, together with some friends and family came to the gym to see how good they are and how they will pit against our much smaller players," said Liz Palacios, who admits she is not a basketball fan, but is excited to see how the visiting teams from Australia, New Zealand, and New Caledonia play.

"Guam is in the tournament, too, but we already know how they play. So, I, and most of the kids who came here are really looking forward to seeing players from the three other visiting teams. When I looked at these

See CROWD on Page 26

Rabauliman figures in freak accident as NMI *bows to* NZ

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marvin Rabauliman's nasty fall in the CNMI Men's Nationals game against New Zealand turned the festive mood in the opening day of the 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament Sunday night to a scary one for several minutes.

Rabauliman lost consciousness and left the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium in a stretcher, as he fell hard on the floor after going up against a driving New Zealand player in the closing minutes of the CNMI Men's Nationals' debut.

The freak accident started when New Zealand's Hayden Miller drove from the right wing and pulled up for an acrobatic shot against the CNMI's Quincy Johnson. Rabauliman tried to help Johnson defend Miller, as the latter came from the opposite wing, jumped high, and collided with his teammate before falling to the ground.

All three players went down, but while Miller and Johnson quickly picked themselves up, Rabauliman remained sprawled on the floor. His back was the first to hit the floor and at the moment of impact was still conscious, but a split second after a tweaking sound came off as he turned his neck to the left, he became unconscious.

Staff from the Emergency Management Service and Commonwealth Health Center rushed to Rabauliman's side.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

New Zealand's Daniel Green slips past CNMI's George Lieto and Jomary Tumaquip during their game in the 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

With Rabauliman still unconscious, the stunned spectators began making noise, stamping their feet and tapping their seats hoping to wake up the CNMI player. The rest of the CNMI players and coaching staff were also up on their feet on the other end of the court and called the name of their teammate.

"Marv, Marv, Marv," CNMI players echoed.

Finally, Rabauliman regained his consciousness and

See RABAULIMAN on Page 26

Sufa leads Round 1 winners in Marianas Cup softball

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sufa leaned on a nine-run top of the fifth to nail an early 15-4 victory over Che'lus in the opening round of the 7th Annual Miller Lite Marianas Cup Slow-pitch Softball Qualifier last Saturday at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Sufa runner heads to third base and beats Che'lus' Jose Sablan during their game in the 7th Annual Miller Lite Marianas Cup Slow-pitch Softball Qualifier last Saturday at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

Two other teams won their debuts in the Saipan qualifier, which will pit its top winner against the champion teams from Rota, Tinian, and Guam. Kulan Zamu Gear played in the first game and edged Balutar, 14-13, while in the third game, Pac-Chain pulled off a similar close win over Calikano, 10-9.

Kagman Mobil was scheduled to duel Ur Balls in the second game, but the match was called off due the former's last-minute pullout.

Sufa played in the last game of the day and needed only five innings to win via the 10-run mercy rule over Che'lus.

Che'lus failed to extend the game, as it was shut out in the last three innings.

Both teams scored three runs in the first inning and the game was still tied in the second with Sufa and Che'lus adding one more run each. Sufa took the lead at the top of the third, 6-4, with Manny Flores and Tim Rabago reaching home plate.

Che'lus first three batters at the bottom of the third were thrown out and it had the same fate in the fourth inning, Sufa was without a run, too in the fourth, but redeemed itself in the fifth in-

See SUFA on Page 26